

PF 604692	/ V2	PF 604692
S O L O M O N, MRS. FLORA		
FILE CLOSED		
S Form 924A	10409	/ V2

SEE ALSO LIST INSIDE COVER

Serial No	Star Designation	Date	Serial No	Star Designation	Date	Serial No	Star Designation	Date
KV 2/4634								
S. 960 Edn2								

S Form 238

**Y FILE**

THIS FILE WHEN IN TRANSIT  
MUST BE IN A CLOSED  
ENVELOPE, ADDRESSED PER-  
SONALLY TO THE OFFICER.

**HELD by R.5**

The file should be passed for P.A. to R.5.

LIMITED CIRCULATION

Please refer to S. Form 239 before  
sending this file to another Section.

S Form 238B

PF 604692	FILE CLOSED	/ V2
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Previous volume closed at serial 77 dated 12.9.62.

Reference.....P.F.A. 604.692.....  
Volume 2.

78.

25.9.62.

Transcript of Interview.

78a.

79.

~~10.10.62. Note for file.~~ Replaced by 80a

~~79a~~

80

17.10.62.

Note on Flora SOLOMON

80a

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ACT 1958 MARCH 2022

CODE 18-75



84  
 25/2/63  
 25/2  
 D.D.G. through D. and D.1.

I wish to apply for a Home Office Warrant  
 telephone check on Mrs. Flora SOLOMON of 103 Carrington  
 House, London W.1., telephone No. Mayfair 2467.

I suggest as a short reason:-

and had  
 knowledge of  
 his espionage  
 activities. It

Mrs. Flora SOLOMON was a friend of H. A. R. PHILBY  
 and it is desired to know her reactions to his  
 disappearance.

D.1.

25th February, 1963.

E. McBurnet.

85

26.2.63. To G.P.O. Mr. Hawkins re H.O.W.

85a

86

26.2.63. Short reason for H.O.W.

86a

87

4.3.63. Note for file.

87a

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 ACT 1958



Reference.....PF.604,692.....

8.3  
 D.D.G. through D. and D.1.

It has been learned that Mrs. Flora SOLOMON, who has been away in America, is flying back to this country on 10 March. She is then going to stay with a Mrs. SASSOON at 23 Hyde Park Square, W.2., telephone number AMBassador 0734. May this telephone number be added to the existing warrant TS/2358.

D.1.

E. McBarnet

8.3.63.

To G.P.O. re addition to H.O.W.

88b

89

1.3.63.

Copy of T/C.

89a

90

15.3  
 D.D.G. through D. and D.1.

We have learned from the T/C on Ambassador 0734 that Mrs. SOLOMON is not returning from New York until 20th March, 1963, and will not be staying with Mrs. SASSOON after all. Her own flat, which has been let, will be vacant by 20th March. I should therefore be grateful if you will cancel the number Ambassador 0734 from this check.

D.1

12th March, 1963.

To G.P.O. re deletion to H.O.W.

E. McBarnet.

90b

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91

26.3.63. Note for file.

91a

27.3.63. Ext. from Note for File

91b

92

*29/3*  
A.2.A./Commander Aubrey

Would you please cancel the Home Office Warrant  
 T.S./2358 on Mrs. Flora SOLOMON at 103 Carrington  
 House, London, W.1., telephone number Mayfair 2467,  
 as from 8th April, 1963.

D.1.  
 28th March, 1963.

*E. McBarnet*  
 E. McBarnet.

94.

5.2.65. Extract from interview with BLUNT

94a

95.

11.2.65. Extract from Interview with BLUNT

95z

19.2.65. Extract from Interview with BLUNT

95a

20.4.65. Note for File

95b

96.

7.3.66 Ext. from interview report

96a

16.3.66 Ext. from a note of 'phone conversation between ROTHSCHILD and D.3

97a

97.



Reference... PF.604692 Vol. 2 .....

100.

25.8.66

Ext. from a note of a discussion with Lord ROTHSCHILD

100a

102.

26.9.66

Ext. from the "Times" re. Vera WEIZMANN

102a

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108.

5.12.66. Note for file.

108a

109.

12.6.67. Note of interview.

109b

111.

21.7.67. Note for file.

111a



113a.

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**Top Secret and Personal**

112A

Flora SOLOMON

I saw Mrs. SOLOMON at her request in Peter Wright's absence on 26th August 1967 at her flat in Carrington House, Hertford Street, W.1.

2. She told me that she had had two recent approaches for information from journalists about Kim PHILBY. The first was in a letter from Patrick SEALE, which she showed me, dated 16th August and addressed to Mrs. SOLOMON c/o a Marks & Spencer's pensions official named H. JACOBS. Mrs. SOLOMON could not understand why SEALE had not written to her more directly particularly as her address is in the telephone book.

3. SEALE remarked in his letter that he understood that Mrs. SOLOMON had been a witness with Tommy HARRIS to PHILBY's marriage with Aileen FURZE. SEALE hoped Mrs. SOLOMON would give him an interview.

4. The second approach followed hard on the first in the form of a telephone call to Mrs. SOLOMON on 21st August from Hugo YOUNG of the Sunday Times. YOUNG had been not quite so direct. He said he was writing a history of the "Foreign Office" which would include the story of BURGESS, MacLEAN and PHILBY. YOUNG said he understood Mrs. SOLOMON had had a long working association with PHILBY's wife. He asked, presumably speaking of Aileen, if Mrs. SOLOMON knew when she married. Mrs. SOLOMON replied that all this was a long time ago and that Aileen had been a sick woman; there was therefore very little she could usefully discuss. YOUNG urged her to think about it, and said he would telephone again this week.

5. Mrs. SOLOMON said her purpose in asking to see me was to decide what action she should take. Should she, for instance, give SEALE or YOUNG names of other people who knew Aileen so as to divert them from herself. She could, for instance, refer them to Neil FURZE who is still with Marks & Spencer.

6. I strongly advised Mrs. SOLOMON to kill these approaches now before she got involved. I suggested that if she gave any opening at all she was likely to be pestered. We agreed that Mrs. SOLOMON would send a reply to SEALE's letter through her secretary to the effect that Mrs. SOLOMON was unable to help and was not in London; (she is in fact going away for a holiday this week with a sister who has just arrived from the United States).

7. We also agreed that if YOUNG reaches Mrs. SOLOMON on the telephone before she leaves Mrs. SOLOMON will repeat that the matter is too buried in the past for her to remember anything that would be helpful to him. Mrs. SOLOMON will, however, ask YOUNG what made him think of getting in touch with her. She will let me know what he says.

8. In reflecting on both these approaches Mrs. SOLOMON thought it fairly clear that both YOUNG and SEALE had seen her name in the Marriage Registry Office files where she in fact appears as a witness to PHILBY's marriage with Aileen FURZE. She agreed however that there may be more than coincidence in both SEALE and YOUNG coming through to her within a matter of a few days.

**Top Secret and Personal**

9380A



**TOP SECRET**Reference... PF. 604,692  
Copy to PF. 604,584Note of Interviews by Mr. P. M. Wrightwith Mrs. Flora SOLOMON on 6 and 7.12.66.*This was written up  
6 months later. See  
page 3.**Sum  
K26  
25.8.82*

As a result of the meeting between Victor ROTHSCCHILD and Flora SOLOMON on Monday December 5th, 1966 (recorded at 108a), when I was castigated by Flora for having approached her sister when the latter was ill, I myself met Flora the following day. Some hours of argument followed, in the course of which I was accused of almost every crime, but she eventually agreed to a further meeting to take place on December 7th.

2. On the evening of Wednesday December 7th I duly went round to Mrs. SOLOMON's flat, 103 Carrington House, W.1. For the first hour, or hour and a half, her talk was mainly a repetition of what she had said to Arthur Martin about PHILBY. She showed annoyance with Arthur: she did not consider him to be the man who should have seen her; he did not understand the problem! She repeated the allegation she had made to Arthur that Tommy HARRIS was involved with Kim PHILBY. I pointed out to her that it was impossible for us to go to work on anything as vague as this and encouraged her to give more detail, to quote some kind of chapter and verse. She refused to be more specific and gave an answer tantamount to saying the allegation was no more than a hunch. But I was left with an impression that she probably knew the detail I was asking for and did not wish to tell it. I felt that with a character like Flora SOLOMON there was nothing to be gained by insisting or trying to force the pace. So I changed the subject, hoping we might return to it later.

3. Mrs. SOLOMON then proceeded to tell the story she had already told to Arthur about her relations with Guy BURGESS, how she came to fall out with him, how she found him dirty and unattractive and impossible and in fact threw him out of her flat. In about 1948, however, during the time that he was P.A. to Hector McNEIL, Guy BURGESS rang her up one day and asked her to do him a favour. This annoyed her considerably; why should she do BURGESS a favour. He explained that there was an exceptionally gifted engineer who wanted to get a certain job at Gestetners. Could Flora use her influence and put in a good word for him. She said that she was annoyed, that she did nothing about the matter at all. She professed not to be able to remember the name of the engineer.

4. At this point Mrs. SOLOMON embarked on a long ramble about Moura BUDBERG. She had known her for many years, and did not trust her. Moura had told her on one occasion, when Moura had had rather too much to drink, that she had worked both for the Russians and for the Foreign Office.

5. Flora SOLOMON at this stage in the conversation reverted to Kim PHILBY and her relationship with him, on which she discoursed at some length, describing how he confided in her, looked up to her, treated her in some sense as a Mother Confessor. He valued her opinion about people and apparently was in the habit of bringing individuals, singly, to her flat to see her, and to talk to her in what were obviously "vetting" exercises with a view to gauging their suitability or otherwise for intelligence recruitment.

She.../

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**TOP SECRET**

CODE 8-75

*131 PF  
24.7.77*



TOP SECRET

Reference.....

- 2 -

111a

Extracted  
to  
PF 604.597  
PROCTOR

Extracted  
to  
PF 607283  
DANBY

She went to great lengths to explain how, during the war, he would also bring parties of friends to her Carrington House flat and nearly every evening she would entertain a bunch of them there, sometimes putting one or two of them up for him in the servants' rooms which were available in different parts of the block and which in war time needless to say were empty of servants! These parties were quite different affairs of course from the individual "vetting" evenings, which she would afterwards discuss with PHILBY, giving him her opinion of the people seen. I naturally asked her if she could tell me the names of any of those who were brought by PHILBY in this way but she declared (almost certainly untruthfully!) that she could not remember any of them. In any case, they were all either dead or retired - so what did it matter - and with this she flung her arms in the air in an expressive gesture.

Extracted  
to  
PF 604.643  
HONEY.

Gen. K.3/26.

6. Again, I did not press Mrs. SOLOMON on this and there was then a pause of significant silence while she thought something over. She finally broke the silence to say "If I tell you about Tommy HARRIS, will you promise not to approach the person concerned?" I readily gave her my promise (for what that was worth!) and she told me there was a certain Ernst SCHNEIDER (sic), the Art Director of Marks & Spencer, a man with a £10,000 salary, holding a very big job in the firm, responsible for decor etc. throughout the whole business. She described him as a "lovable little pansy". She stressed most vehemently that he was not to be approached, that he would have a nervous breakdown at the very least. She informed me that he had very peculiar sexual habits. He owned or visited a house in Greece, where he would indulge these habits, and one of the people who took part in whatever went on there was a certain Concita, who she said was Hilda HARRIS's sister, but who is more likely to have been one of the sisters of Tommy HARRIS himself. She had gathered from SCHNEIDER, who had presumably had it from Concita, that Tommy HARRIS had been courier and "contact man" for PHILBY in Spain. At the end of this tale she said "This is all I have to say". She was convinced that Tommy was in it with Kim. So I asked her if Kim knew HARRIS before the war and she said "Oh, he must have done". Shortly after the fall of France Kim brought Tommy round to her flat

This was the first time she saw them together but she considered it was very clear then that they were long-standing friends. She had no positive knowledge that they knew each other earlier but felt certain that they did.

7. Mrs. SOLOMON then returned to her theme that Tommy HARRIS' death was murder in some way caused by having talked about him to Arthur Martin in connection with Kim PHILBY. I assured her it was a pure accident. But she went over the old ground again.

Extracted  
to  
PF 604.597  
PROCTOR

8. The conversation returned to the subject of Kim's little "vetting" visits to her flat. Reluctantly she asked me if the name "PROCTOR" was familiar to me. I said it was. She asked if he was in the Treasury. I said "Yes". Was his Christian name "Dennis"? Again I said "Yes". And his wife called "Varda"? "Yes". Having felt things out like this, she then came out with the information that Dennis and Varda PROCTOR had been brought by Kim to see her. She had told him

that.../

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TOP SECRET



TOP SECRET

Reference.....

- 3 -

Extracted  
to PF 6041597  
PROC MR

that Varda was a good person but that Dennis was not the right type to consider recruiting. She maintained that she did not know what action Kim took as a result of her advice. She said she knew Guy BURGESS had been very friendly with Varda and asked if she had not committed suicide shortly after his defection. I confirmed that she had done so.

9. I asked Mrs. SOLOMON if she could tell me of anyone else. She went cold and blank. She could not. She repeated the theme that they were all dead - or living in Russia. I had proposed putting certain names to her but it was by then getting rather late and she agreed that we should leave it for a month or two and resume then.

*Peter M. Wright*

D.3.

Peter M. Wright

21.7.67.

TOP SECRET



100<sup>A</sup>

Reference.....

**TOP SECRET**

PA in PF.604692  
Original in PF.605565 (ROTHSCHILD) Vol. 2 serial 97a

Extract from Note of a discussion between Lord ROTHSCCHILD (Victor) and  
D.3/P.M. Wright on 24th August, 1966.

---

.....

3.

He said that Flora was at the moment accompanying Mrs. WEIZMANN, who is over 80, in Europe and was probably in Geneva. He thought that they would be returning to Israel about mid-September. He suggested that it might be better that he should see Flora this winter in Israel rather than here. I said that I would like to think about the matter.

.....

(sgd.) Peter M. Wright

D.3

25.8.66

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RP  
D.1/Inv  
26.8.66

CODE 14-75

RP  
D.1/Inv  
26.8.66



Copy sent to ...  
**TOP SECRET**

Reference... **109<sup>b</sup>**  
...604,692...

Note on Interview of Mrs. Flora SOLOMON

by Mr. Peter Wright on 12.6.67.

I went to see Mrs. Flora SOLOMON on Monday 12th June as a result of a message I had received from Manya HARARI, her sister, saying that Flora wanted to see me. I had also had a tip-off from Victor ROTHSCHILD that Flora had something to say.

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**TOP SECRET**

CODE 18-75



TOP SECRET

Reference.....

- 2 -

PF. 624, 604

4. I changed the subject and asked Flora if she had remembered any more of Kim's friends who might be of interest to us. She said that she had not. I then asked her if she remembered someone called Alister WATSON. She said that she did not. I then suggested the name LLEWELLYN-DAVIES. She sparked at once on this. Was his name Richard, she asked. I said it was. Was he an architect? Yes. And was his wife called Pat? I said she was indeed. She then said "Oh - I knew them well - Pat lived at Bentinck Street." Flora said she, Flora, was in the habit of going and sleeping in the Bentinck Street air raid shelters during the blitz and commented that the Bentinck Street crowd were all in and out of each other's beds. Pat had been one of the regular occupants of the Bentinck Street house and Richard spent a lot of his time there. She then said "Richard was a very close friend of Kim's". I asked her if she thought Richard ought to be of interest to us. She said she did not know but she thought he was certainly worth examination.

5. I agreed to see Flora SOLOMON again in a few weeks' time.

*Peter M. Wright*

D.3.

Peter M. Wright

16.8.67

TOP SECRET



109a.

110a.

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**TOP SECRET**

Reference.....PF.604,692.....

1086

Note for File

On Friday afternoon December 2nd I learnt [redacted] that Flora SOLOMON had been talking to her sister, Manya HARARI, again; that she was very worried indeed and very likely to see somebody outside the Intelligence world about her concerns.

2. I went [redacted] to see Manya HARARI in her nursing home in Notting Hill Gate where she is recovering from a cataract operation. She was very friendly and seemed very well. She told me in broad outline what we already knew about her sister's worries. She then said that her sister was intending to see Lord PAKENHAM who was a personal friend of hers and tell him all her worries. I was considerably concerned about this, as she has told her sister that she believes British Intelligence to be penetrated at a high level, as well as the Labour Party and the present Government.

3. I asked [redacted] She seemed to be the only channel whereby I could do this, as Flora had already said that she did not like Arthur Martin and was fed up with Victor ROTHCHILD. The difficulty was that anybody coming out of the blue to see her would be suspected of being a Russian spy. Manya said that the major issue that was worrying Flora was not that she might be assassinated but rather that the Russians, through their spies, would blacken her and cause a scandal. She was particularly worried for her son, Peter BENENSON (who has made a bit of an ass of himself with Amnesty International). Her son's flat was burgled recently and she is convinced that British Intelligence has done it.

4. Manya HARARI was not prepared to blow her contact with us to her sister. She said that she would lose her sister's confidence if she did this. I therefore suggested to her that she should say to her sister that I had visited her out of the blue as a member of the Security Service, asking for her good offices in getting an introduction to her sister. Manya asked me how she could convince her sister that I was not a Russian spy. I asked her whether she trusted Victor ROTHCHILD to this extent. She said that she had no doubt that Flora did trust Victor although she was very annoyed with him at the moment. I then suggested to Manya that she should tell Flora that Peter Wright had said that he knew Victor ROTHCHILD, and that if Flora had any doubts she should ring up Victor and ask him.

5. Manya said that she thought she would be seeing her sister again over the week-end, probably on Sunday. She would tackle her then. I agreed to ring Manya HARARI at 10.30 on Monday morning to find out what had happened.

6. I decided to ring up Victor ROTHCHILD after dinner on Saturday evening. However, before I was able to do this Victor rang me to say that he had had a very distraught Flora on the phone demanding to see him; that it was very inconvenient to see her at the moment, but that he had fixed to see her at 8.45 on Monday morning, 5th December. Could I brief him on what to say? I agreed to come over to Cambridge the following morning.

7.../

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**TOP SECRET**

✓  
DB/AF  
12.12.86



TOP SECRET

108a

Reference.....

- 2 -

7. I met Victor ROTHSCHILD at his house on Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. I told him the story as I knew it up to the present time, explaining that I was just too late in getting in touch with him. He said that very fortunately he had admitted knowing me, so no harm was done. He said that Flora accused me of harrying her sister when she was seriously ill and that she was very indignant.

He said that he would see Flora on Monday morning and ring me between 9.30 and 10 to let me know the answer. He has just done this, saying that he has suggested to her that he, Flora and myself should meet tomorrow sometime. Flora does not know that Victor has spoken to me. I am ringing Flora at 11 o'clock.

*Peter M. Wright*D.3.Peter M. Wright

5.12.66

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TOP SECRET



103a - 107a.

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FROM THE PRESS SECTION.

102A

Date... 26.9.66.

The TimesDied on Saturday,  
24 September 1966**DR. VERA WEIZMANN**

Dr. Vera Weizmann, widow of Chaim Weizmann, the first President of Israel, died in London on Saturday at the age of 87. She was the perfect mate of the Zionist leader who was equally eminent as statesman and chemist. A Jewess from Rostov-on-Don, she was a medical student at Geneva University where he was a Lecturer. He wooed her and after he had moved to England in 1906 to be Lecturer at Manchester University he married her. She completed her medical studies in England, carried on a medical practice and won a local reputation. Already in Manchester she showed notable social gifts, moving easily with all the men and women, Jewish and non-Jewish, whom Weizmann won to the Zionist cause. And she made for him a restful home.

During the First World War they moved to London, and their modest house in Addison Crescent was a centre for all the Zionist leaders and the best of English society. In times of trial as well as of triumphs, she strengthened him with loving care and understanding. Everywhere she was the gifted hostess, who could draw out sympathy from her guests.

When in the thirties Weizmann built at Rehovot, Palestine, a home and a small research institute, she was the beautiful and gracious chatelaine. And after he became Israel's first President in 1948 and she was the first lady in the land, their residence was the magnet of all the important visitors to the young State.

Among public causes she was devoted to that great work of youth and children's rescue, which has brought to Israel 120,000 young people and trained them for life in the land. She had two sons; the younger who was an officer in the R.A.F. was killed in 1942 when attacking a German warship.

RP

JLHW

24.9.66



101a

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99A

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5 Float

TOP SECRET & PERSONAL

PT. 604,692/D.1. Inv/EmoB

[Redacted]

4th July, 1966.

Dear [Redacted]

98a

With reference to your letter of 28th June, 1966, addressed to Peter Wright, I attach a very brief biography of Flora SOLOMON. This should presumably be sufficient to enable [Redacted] to identify her. Perhaps you will let me know if you require any further information about her.

Yours

[Handwritten signature]

B. McBarnet

[Redacted]

(in duplicate)  
1 enclosure.

TOP SECRET & PERSONAL

RF  
D.1. Inv  
175



98a.

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**TOP SECRET**

97A

Reference.....

PA in PF.604692 (SOLOMON)

Original in PF.605565 (ROTHSCHILD) Vol. 2 serial 77b

Extract from a Note of a 'phone conversation between  
Lord ROTHSCCHILD and P.M. Wright (D.3) on 16.3.66

.....

3. Lord ROTHSCCHILD had seen Flora SOLOMONS at a cocktail party, where she had approached him, saying she wanted to talk more on the subject she had spoken about a few years ago. ROTHSCCHILD has not yet been able to arrange an interview with her.

D.3

16.3.66

(sgd.) P.M. Wright

RP

D.1/Inv

5.4.66

**TOP SECRET**

CODE 18-76

26  
17.84



TOP SECRET

Reference.....

96<sup>A</sup>

PA in PF.604692 (SOLOMON)  
Original in PF.605565 (ROTHSCHILD) Vol. 2 serial 74a

Extract from Note of an interview with Lord and Lady ROTHSCCHILD  
in London on 21st February, 1966, by P.M. Wright and E. McBarnet

.....  
4. Flora SOLOMON

PMW referred to Flora SOLOMON, and told the ROTHSCCHILDs BLUNT's peculiar story of the letter he said he had found in BURGESS' flat. It seemed to us that if this story was true Flora SOLOMON may at some stage have been more deeply involved than she has been prepared to admit. When she was interviewed by Arthur Martin in 1962 it was believed that she was truthful within the limits which she herself set (she was not prepared to talk about her friends), and the reason she gave for failing to report PHILBY's activities were considered credible in the circumstances - allowing for her character and quite natural violent anti-Facist feelings at the time. PMW asked V.R. if he thought she might be approachable again, and if he had any ideas on the best way of how to go about it. V.R. immediately said that he could start the ball rolling himself with no difficulty at all. He will find a way of seeing her - probably by inviting her in for a drink - and see what she is like now bearing in mind that she is quite old and may for all he knows have become quite senile. If she is all right, he will try to discuss the matter with her himself and then, if possible, persuade her to see PMW.

.....  
(sgd.) E. McBarnet

D.1/Inv  
7.3.66

RP  
D.1/Inv  
5.4.66

TOP SECRET

RP  
ST lw  
✓ 1786 5.4.66



962

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ACT 1958.



Reference... Gen... 66/65/D.1/EMcB...

Copied to PF.604,692

95B

NOTE FOR FILEEric Benjamin STRAUSS

Born: London 18th February 1894

Educated: Oundle, University College School.  
1918/21 New College Oxford.  
Kings College Hospital.

Served in the Middlesex Regiment 1914/18.

Studied psychological medicine at Marburg University 1926.

Unmarried.

Employed as of 1953 in Department of Psychological  
Medicine St. Bartholomew Hospital. Consultant  
surgeon psychiatry.

Died 11th January 1961.

said that Aileen PHILBY was very much under the influence of Flora SOLOMAN and that SOLOMAN was the mistress of Dr. Eric STRAUSS, added that STRAUSS knew a great deal more about security suspicion of PHILBY, BURGESS and MACLEAN than he had any right to. He presumed the information came from Aileen PHILBY via Flora SOLOMAN.

2. Inquiries were made about STRAUSS in the medical world and it was said that in the "trade" his integrity, patriotism and general character were rated to be very good. When Flora SOLOMAN was under investigation for two months in 1954 it was soon learned that STRAUSS was a very close and intimate friend of SOLOMAN. They were extremely discreet in their conversations but on the whole it seemed probable that they had been lovers at least in the past.

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ACT 1958 MARCH 20 22

Code 18-75

D.1.  
20.4.65.

E. McBarnet

123/KAT  
17/7/70  
J3/PE



Extract from Interview with BLUNT on 19.2.65. serial 434b in  
 PF.604,582 Vol.8. on 22.4.65. for PF 604,692 SOLOMON

Reference.....

Page 1.

TOP SECRET

g5a

B No I visualise the start as being from Park Lane, but anyhow I'm not absolutely certain it was north of Curzon Street, I thought it was. Um, you say south.

M South is Shepherd Market.

B Is Shepherd Market. Now you, um, I didn't have time to walk down to it just now but there is um, a big hole, isn't there? And if it has been pulled down - south of, um, the Hilton. I don't know what was there

M It wouldn't have been a - oh, south of the Hilton?

B It looked to me as though there was rather a big hole.

M I think those were news houses.

B Yes.

M I think so, yes, I'm sure they were.

W East of the Hilton - you mean -

B No. Today I was really in the Hill Street/Charles Street/Waverton Street. As I say I think I can't do any better

M It was a fairly modern block.

B It was, um, well, if you go and look at Waverton Street there is one that is exactly what it was in style, it was a demure Georgian door.

M But not the sort of thing you'd pull down if you could possibly avoid it.

B Well I don't know it's what they're doing. It's certainly not news houses or anything like that.

M But it wasn't sufficiently modern for you to say whether it was inconceivable that they would pull it down unless there was some -

B I think you're right. I think in New York they might very well be, and I should say it was quite certainly, if my visual memory is right, early thirties. It's solid red brick early thirties, neo-Georgian block.

M They're not likely to pull a -

B No, no I'm sorry, I think I'm thinking in terms of New York, where they do.

M I think we'd (?) better leave it like that.

.....

TOP SECRET

hls  
216105  
D3RAS  
22-4-65



Extract from Interview with BLUNT on 11.2.65. serial 432a in PF.604,582  
for PF.604,592 on 23.4.65.

TOP SECRET

Page 1

952

- M. The first thing I was going to ask you was to go back on this Marks and Spencer story, which I must say has us puzzled. I take it, whether you went there or - you clearly knew the block of flats and this is what we have got to identify.
- B. That I think I can.
- M. Can you picture where about in Mayfair it is?
- B. Yes I think, I'm sorry I thought you said you thought you knew?
- W. Yes - I'm puzzled about (?) since then.
- M. Imagine you're going down from Park Lane down to Curzon Street, is it on your left or your right? The Shepherd Market side or the other side?
- B. Going down Curzon Street? It's -
- M. From Park Lane. Is it on the left?
- B. It's on the north side, on the, on the left, it's in the Hill Street, Charles Street - area. It, it, it would be, uh, as I say I didn't do anything about this because I thought we knew. I think that ..
- M. There's no block of flats there and an arch.
- W. There's an arch.
- B. But isn't there a block of flats.
- W. No.
- M. It's a mews.
- W. It's a mews.
- B. No, no, can we leave this and I'll simply go and find the building, I'm pretty certain I can.
- M. I mean, you have seen the building?
- B. I've seen the building, um, I've seen the building - I've been past it, uh, uh, since and, and remembered.
- M. It's on the Charles Street side?
- B. It's on the - north I'm pretty certain yes, uh, well, uh, I'm pretty certain, but I'd much rather, uh, simply go and look at it over the weekend.
- M. Because really the other side is, well, it's Shepherd Market.
- B. It's Shepherd Market - there's nothing big there is there?
- W. There is a block of flats down there.
- B. Oh, is there?
- W. Yes. There are, of course, a block of flats on the other side too. Will you have a look round and see what ...
- B. Yes, I will, yes. It's an area that I always find extremely confusing.

TOP SECRET

16/10/65



TOP SECRET

- W. You haven't remembered the woman's name.
- B. No. But what I did remember was the name that we, which I don't think was necessary, the name surely that we were all trying to remember is SIEFF isn't it?
- M. Yes.
- W. Yes.
- B. Whether it was SIEFF that was the name which was, that was from the general ?? point of view.
- M. I mean there are SIEFFs in the firm now.
- B. We said (?) didn't we? SIEFF was the name, but I wouldn't be at all certain that, um, that her name was SIEFF. Could it, are there female Marks (?) I mean, could there be ...
- M. Honestly I don't know, you see we've been tackling it from the ..... block of flats.
- B. From the address.
- M. Yes.
- B. Uh, well if you wouldn't simply, uh, uh, leaving me to go and look at that. Because I've really very little doubt that in half an hour I can pin it down. Well it's certainly not, uh, it's not uh, an archway to a mews at all, it's not that kind of archway ... it's a tunnel. Do you know Orchard Court on the, uh, east, um, east side of Portman Square? Well it's much more like that. Uh, it's a big arch running through with six storeys above it.
- M. Oh, I see, the block of flats is built over the arch. *He already said so last time*
- B. Yuh, it's built over the arch. That's why I said it's almost like going through into a fortress.
- M. Yes.
- B. There is very little doubt that, that I can identify .... In fact there is no doubt that I can identify it.
- M. Well I think this is the best way of tackling it because to embark on an investigation of all members of
- B. Marks and Spencer. I wouldn't actually have had much time to do it, but, uh, I, uh, didn't bother about, uh, this in the least because I thought you reacted to it.
- W. Well I was thinking of an entirely different .....
- M. You were thinking of an arch, but not an arch with a mews behind it you see ....
- B. It's not an arch going through. No. No. It goes through in, ... uh, uh, I don't remember, but I should guess it to be a sort of pie-shaped building, like that, facing the street ... an E ... and you go through the middle and the building spreads out, I imagine there's a sort of unenclosed, or indeed, possibly, an enclosed court inside, I don't remember.
- M. We've searched and can't find it, but ....

TOP SECRET

/cont....



TOP SECRET

- B. Well, I think I can almost guarantee .... but I'm no clearer on the date.
- W. You're not?
- B. I, I'm no clearer on the date, I, I simply haven't got anywhere on
- M. It was at some time when KIM was abroad.
- B. Was abroad, yes. Which one would think would mean Spain.
- M. Yes.
- B. Yes. Unless it was so late, that it was, um, it might have been Turkey, it might have been ....
- M. But in any case you would have distinguished - it could have been post-war I suppose.
- B. Mmm.
- M. KIM wasn't away during the war.
- B. No. I don't think he was in Spain (very quiet)
- W. It could have been Turkey or Washington, couldn't it.
- B. Yes, but that would be (pause) so late that I should remember.
- M. (garbled) but you would have been able to distinguish between the post-war and the pre-war period wouldn't you?
- B. W..well you'd think so. Uh, can I put it the other way that I think if it was post-war I should remember it a good deal more precisely. An the only argument against that is that when I saw the letter, uh, it came so immediately to my mind. W...which, uh, I immediately thought "Oh God. That's that". Um, which would rather suggest that it might not have been so very long before.
- M. You mean that you had known the name before you saw the letter. The letter merely reminded you ...
- B. Reminded me of ..
- M. ... the name that you knew?
- B. Uh, and of an episode that I knew. I remember Guy telling me that he, he'd got this letter. I don't think I'd actually seen the letter before.

TOP SECRET



Extract for PF 604,692 - Flora SOLOMON

Original at serial 431b in PF 604,582 BLUNT

TOP SECRET

Extract from Transcription of Interview between A.S. Martin, P.M. Wright and Sir Anthony BLUNT on Friday, 5th February, 1965.

M Let's start from the beginning again and get this down. I think we ought to record this straight away - Anthony was telling me about the letter which had been found which was among Guy's papers which he extracted in 1951 presumably to protect Kim as much as anything -

B Yes, well in fact Kim more than anything.

M Perhaps you'd like -

B It was a very short note addressed to a woman, the upshot of it being simply being to introduce Guy - it was a letter he was to take to X and it said in effect "you can talk to Guy as you would - as openly as you would to me" and the gloss on it that Guy gave me in conversation was that the woman in question was not involved in the game but was completely sympathetic and the idea was that Guy could go to her for help any time - I have a sort of recollection that even if he needed money urgently - something like that she was very wealthy - he could do that. But I do remember quite clearly that she was not involved in the game though she clearly knew - must have known a great deal of what Kim was doing -

M Yes -

B - I mean in principle not in detail. And she was - either she herself of her husband was a Director or a partner in Marks and Spencers. I don't think her name was Marks but I can't - it certainly wasn't Spencer - then I don't think they exist any more.

W There is another family, isn't there?

(All talking together)

M Yes I think there's yet another -

W Yes -

M - and there are living SIEFFs, I think, who are Directors of Marks and Spencer.

B I think it conceivable that if I could get a list of Directors I could - I might recognise the name - and there are clearly -

M Some block of flats -

B The block of flats - I'm fairly certain because I think I must have gone - I think I must even have gone there for a drink once - with Guy because I can clearly visualise -

M So Guy took up this introduction?

B No. He didn't. He merely -

M Well, but the letter was still there.

B - or can I have gone with Kim? (Pause)

M Well, tell us about -

TOP SECRET



TOP SECRET

- 2 -

- B Well, what I have clearly linked with this in my mind is a block of flats somewhere in the Charles Street - in Mayfair - in the Charles Street/Hill Street area. A very - extremely expensive block of flats, rather curiously placed so that you go - first of all the road leads slightly down towards it and you then go through a very, almost sort of fortified arch, deep arch, not just a shallow one - right under the building.
- M It is a block of flats, it's not a mews?
- B Not at all, it's a block of swagger red-brick, not so much Dorchester House -
- W The archway is roughly west?
- B The archway faces west, yes.
- W Yes, I think we've walked past it in our walks round there.
- M Yes. Well now, if you went there, presumably you met her?
- B I certainly have been to the outside of that block of flats. What I can't remember is whether I went in and met her. And I can't - I was assuming for a moment that I was with Guy - but, I still think that may have been the case and I still think it possible that Guy may have known her through Kim, or known her somehow, but certainly he didn't make use of the letter which could after all - there could have been two stages, I mean he might have known her in the ordinary - in the ordinary sort of social way and had the letter in reserve but he can't have used that, as I say, because I found it among his papers.
- M Yes. It's conceivable that he would present the letter and then put it back in his pocket.
- B Yes, and of course if he did he would certainly keep it.
- M It was the sort of thing which I imagine the woman herself wouldn't want to keep.
- B No. She would have some interest in seeing it was destroyed. Also I'm fairly sure that if Guy had taken it up in that way I should have known.
- M Do you think if you went and had a look at the block of flats again you would remember whether you went in? It would be interesting to know the sort of occasion it would have been.
- B (Very quietly) Yes, yes. I doubt if I should. And I don't even know whether if I went in, if I did, whether I knew about the letter - it might have been before that, if they were, in fact if they knew each other.
- M Yes - yes. When you found the letter - this was the result of scrabbling through everything, was it?
- B I think - I think it must have been - when I was in the flat - when we went and searched the flat, you remember that part of it, do you? When Jackie HEWITT was living there - I mean immediately after - the beginning of the first day. We went in and - with two people from the office, I forget who they were not - and we sort of divided up and I went through the things in one room and I found - I'm pretty certain it was then that I found this -



93a.

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932

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Extract from Note for File/~~Interview Report~~ 91B

Extract for File No. PE.604,692 Name SOLOMON

Original in File No. PE.604,584 Serial 767a Dated 27.3.63.

Date and Place of \*Interview/Meeting

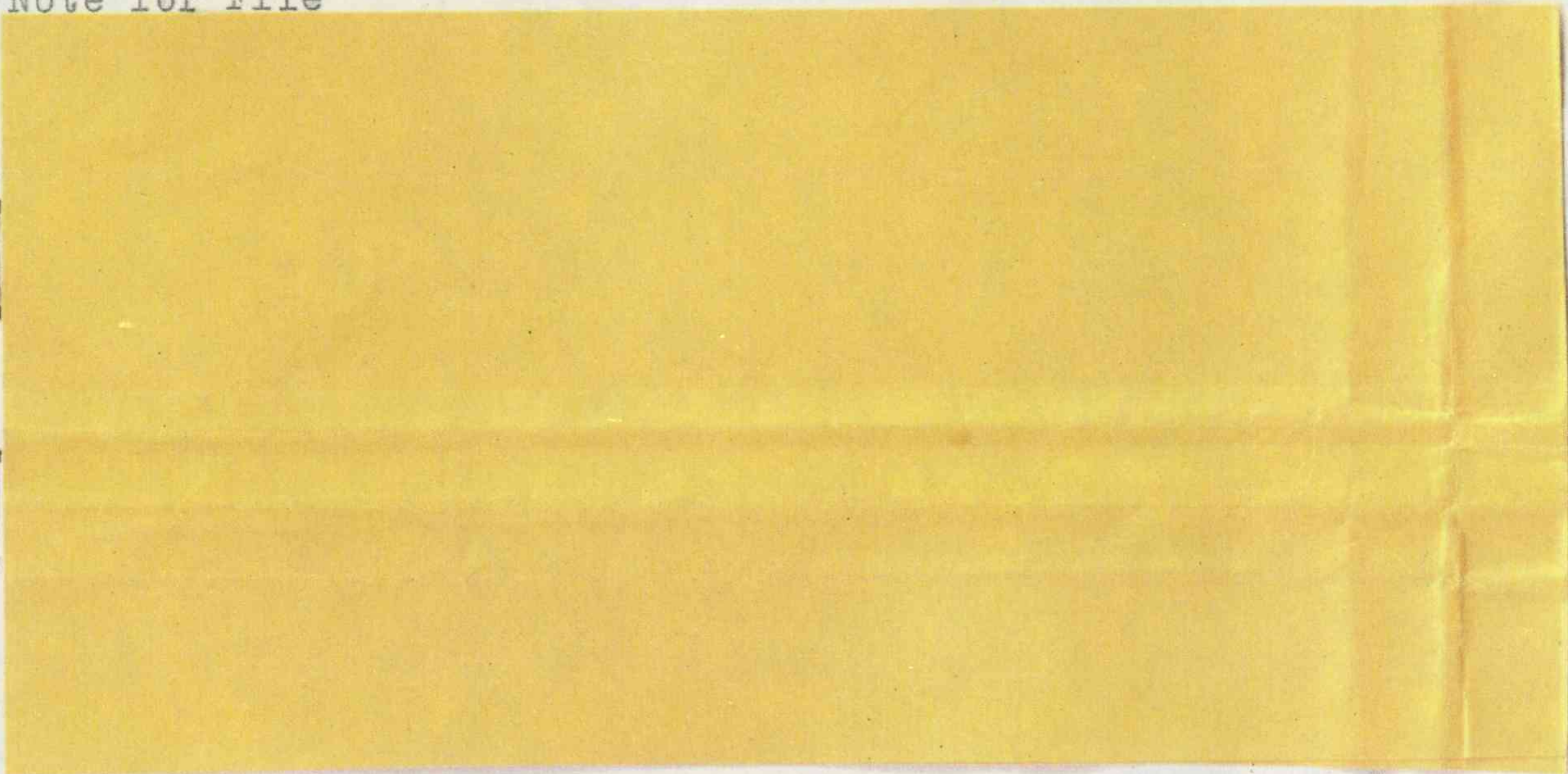
with (also give security context of person being interviewed)

Subject

Officer using @ of Section

Extracted by KAJ Section K3 Date 3.7.70.

## Note for File

Points of special interest

.....

3. In 1934 she was introduced to Flora SOLOMON and went to Marks & Spencer as a welfare worker in Leeds, Reading and Oxford. In 1936 she left Marks & Spencer in order to marry Roger BACKHOUSE (brother of Patsy COLLINS), whom she had known for a long time, but the engagement was broken off and she returned to Marks & Spencer in Oxford where, among other things, she stopped a strike. She continued to work for Marks & Spencer in London afterwards. In 1937 she started to live with Frank BIRCH and stayed with him until 1939. She still worked for Marks & Spencer.

4. On the 3rd September, 1939 she was with Flora SOLOMON, and Flora asked her to get Frank BIRCH to lunch the next day in order to meet someone who wanted to do Intelligence work. Aileen and Frank lunched there the next day and met Eric STRAUSS and Kim PHILBY. Frank saw Kim alone and thought him very suitable for Intelligence work, but thought that he had too good a job for him to try to recruit him at the time. In 1940 Aileen left Frank BIRCH and started her life with PHILBY.

\*Stri



Reference... PF 604,692.

91A

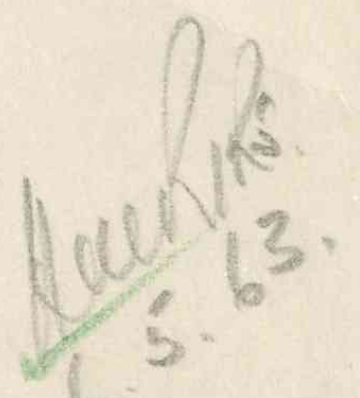
NOTE FOR FILE

On 26th March it was learned from the telecheck on Flora SOLOMON that she returned to London on Sunday the 24th, and is leaving for Israel on 7th ~~October~~. April.

D.1.  
26th March, 1963.

  
E. McBarnet.

CODE 18-76

  
6.5.63.  
D.1. D.F.  
26.3.63.



SECRET

90B

G.P.O.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]MR. C. J. SAUNDERS\*  
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~  
MR. N. A. HAWKINS\*Home Office Warrant Change of Address/Telephone Number

Please make the following amendment to H.O.W. No. TS/2358.....

in the name of Mrs. Floro SOLOMON.....:—

ADD:

DELETE:

Ambassador 0734

Date.....15.3.63.....

Signature.....

Copy to: A.2

\*Delete whichever is inapplicable.

S. Form 417 rev.3.59

SECRET

[Handwritten signature]  
 13  
 6. 5/4/03.



**SECRET**

NAME: SOLOMON

T.C. No.: 4059

Tel. No.: AMB 0734

Date: 11.3.63  
MONDAY

Responsible Section: D.I.

Incoming call for Mrs SOLOMON from Mrs MOORE.  
Mrs SASSOON answered as follows- after Mrs MOORE  
had said that she understood she was staying there:-  
Mrs S. Yes, well, very rudely, she just hasn't  
turned up and isn't going to.

Mrs M. Oh dear - I -

Mrs MOORE explained that she was a friend of hers  
and mentioned having spoken to her housekeeper.

Mrs S. Yes, I'm extremely angry with her!

Mrs M. Oh dear - I am so sorry.

Mrs S. Well, she just sent me a message through a  
third person, one day before I'd arranged  
everything for her, to say she wasn't coming,  
she's still in New York.

Mrs M. Oh - she's still in New York?

Mrs S. Yes.

Mrs M. Oh I see, well, I know nothing about it -

Mrs S. No, of course you don't.

Mrs MOORE explained that she had spoken to  
Miss LINSTAD. She apologized for disturbing her.

Mrs S. I don't mind - except that I'm boiling with  
rage against her, that's all. So, rude she  
doesn't even take the trouble to send a cable  
so, if you really are a friend of hers it 'd  
be a good plan to give her a lesson in manner

Mrs MOORE thought that she had met Mrs SASSOON.

Mrs S. Well - anyway - I'm extremely angry with her  
and don't want to hear anything about her at  
all. It is very rude, isn't it, because I  
mean six weeks ago she made arrangements to  
come today.

Mrs M. Oh dear - perhaps she fell ill, or -

Mrs S. No, there 's nothing, she's not ill at all,  
she's just staying there for some show or  
other. She won't be home for 10 days.

/over



- 2 -

Mrs M. Oh dear - well, I'm awfully sorry. I'm afraid I've added fuel to your burning fire.

Mrs S. No, you couldn't have added fuel - I've written her a letter to tell her exactly what I think of her and I don't want to have anything more to do with her, I don't like bad manners. It's inexcusable in a civilized society. I suppose no Russian is really civilized.  
(laughter) So, you can tell her all that with my scorn.

Mrs S. repeated that SOLOMON would not be back for another 10 days.  
11.07

L.E.



SECRET

G.P.O.

88B  
MR. C. J. SAUNDERS\*~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
MR. N. A. HAWKINS\*Home Office Warrant Change of Address/Telephone Number

Please make the following amendment to H.O.W. No.....TS/2358

in the name of.....Mrs. Flora SOLOMON.....:—

ADD:

DELETE:

Ambassador 0734

Date.....8.3.63.....

Signature.....  
G. P. MITCHELL

Copy to: A.2

\*Delete whichever is inapplicable.

S. Form 417 rev.3.59

SECRET



Reference.....PF.604692.....


872

Note for file.

It has been established from a telephone check that Mrs. SOLOMON is at present in New York, and her flat in London is let. She is leaving New York to return to London on 10th March, 1963, and will go to stay with Mrs. SASSOON at 23, Hyde Park Square, W.2., telephone Number Ambassador 0734, until her tenant at 103, Carrington House, W.1 leaves on 20th March, 1963.

D.1.

4th March, 1963.

  
E. McBarnet.

CODE 18-76

*Handwritten notes:*  
100/100  
6.5.63  
100/100  
10.3.63



H.O.W. No. TS/2358

86a

Mrs. Flora SOLOMON

MAYfair 2467.

Mrs. Flora SOLOMON was a friend of H.A.R. PHILBY and had knowledge of his espionage activities. It is desired to know her reactions to his disappearance.

26 February, 1963.

G. R. MITCHELL

*See file  
6.5.63  
1362*



SECRET

85a

26 February, 1963.

PF.604692/D.1/E.McB

Dear Mr. Hawkins,

I am applying for a telephone check on  
Mayfair 2467.

The subscriber to this number is Mrs. Flora  
SOLOMON, 103 Carrington House, Hertford Street,  
London, W.1.

Mrs. SOLOMON is known to have been a contact  
of H. A. R. PHILBY, and we are anxious to know her  
reactions to the news of his disappearance.

Yours sincerely,



E. McBarnet.

N. A. Hawkins, Esq.,  
G.P.O.  
EMcB/GA

SECRET

*Handwritten notes:*  
6.5.63.  
D.H.C.  
63.6



82a

83a

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SECRET

81A

PF.604,692/D.1./ASM

17 October 1962

Dear

304

I enclose a summary of our information about Mrs. Flora SOLOMON. My assessment of her veracity was included in the account of my interview with her.

We are busy preparing a re-assessment of PEACH which I will let you have as soon as it is ready.

Yours



A.S. Martin

ASM/JMO

SECRET

11/10  
13/10  
13/63

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**SECRET**

80A

See 8/a

Flora SOLOMON

Flora BENENSON was born in Russia on 28 September, 1898, the daughter of Grigori Ossipovitch BENENSON and his wife Sophie. She has two sisters, Manya now Mrs. HARARI who lives in this country, and Fira now the Countess Il'Inskaya who has a dressmaking business in New York. The BENENSON family left Russia in 1914 and arrived in the United Kingdom in 1915. BENENSON was reported to be a very rich man and to be concerned with Lena Goldfields Ltd. in Russia. One report states that BENENSON was believed to be an agent of the "Bolsheviks" but there is nothing to confirm this. His business interests often took him to America and he was said to be a shady businessman.

2. In 1919 Flora BENENSON married Lt. Col. Harold Josiah SOLOMON, about whom we only know that he was British, was a Director and shareholder of Lena Goldfields Ltd. and died at some date after June 1925, at which time he was living at 19 Campden House Road, Kensington. *Hill?*

3. In 1925 it was reported by a Special Branch source that "SOLOMON's wife is as bad as her father and mother, the last named the most terrible creature, capable of anything, and BENENSON's accomplice through many years of shady deals".

4. In 1939 Flora SOLOMON had become Welfare Superintendent at Marks and Spencer, and in May of that year came to notice when she reported to Special Branch on an employee of Marks and Spencer whom she believed to be a German spy. Mrs. SOLOMON was described by Special Branch at that time as "a responsible person of Conservative political outlook".

5. In 1942 Flora SOLOMON was vetted for employment with S.O.E. The information given by Special Branch was reported to S.O.E. and as a result her application was not followed up.

6. In June 1951 we learned that Flora SOLOMON had been one of two witnesses at the marriage of H.A.R. PHILBY and Aileen PHILBY formerly PURSE, which took place on 25 September, 1946. The second witness was Thomas HARRIS. Also in 1951 we learned that Aileen PHILBY who had been employed by Marks and Spencer before she started to live with PHILBY was trying to persuade Mrs. SOLOMON to get her a job. There is no doubt that the initiative in the matter was entirely Aileen PHILBY's and Flora SOLOMON did not respond with any enthusiasm.

7. On 16 December, 1953. 

mentioned Flora SOLOMON whom he described as an arrogant

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/and domineering ... *21/1/50*  
*17/10*

**SECRET**



SECRET

- 2 -

and domineering Jewess, who could exert a strong influence over both the PHILBYs. [redacted] said that, according to Aileen PHILBY, before the War Flora SOLOMON sent Kim PHILBY on a mission to Spain to contact a Communist who was in trouble with the Falangists. Aileen had told [redacted] long ago that Flora SOLOMON was a Communist.

8. As a result of this information it was decided that checks should be imposed on Flora SOLOMON. They revealed nothing to her detriment.

9. In 1960 we learned [redacted] that Flora SOLOMON proposed to visit Russia and that she was in touch with Mrs. Vera TRAILL (q.v.) in that connection.

9. As a result of some information passed to us by Lord Rothschild to the effect that she had told him that she knew that PHILBY was working for the Russians at the time of the Spanish Civil War, checks were taken out on Mrs. SOLOMON in July, 1962, as a preliminary to an interview. We learned nothing adverse and on 25 September, 1962, Mrs. SOLOMON was interviewed.

10. Flora SOLOMON has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, almost without exception Jewish. She also knows and has some contact with such well known persons of Russian origin as Moura BUDBERG and Vera TRAILL. She is on good terms with her son, Peter BENENSON, and his family. She is, and proclaims herself to be, a Zionist and there is not much doubt that the well being of Israel is now her strongest interest in life. She has said that in the 1930s she was pro-Russian in sentiment, anti-Fascist by conviction and held very left-wing political views. She does not admit to Communist Party membership or Communist activities and has certainly never come to notice in that context. She declares that she is now anti-Communist and we have no reason to doubt it.

17 October 1962

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SECRET

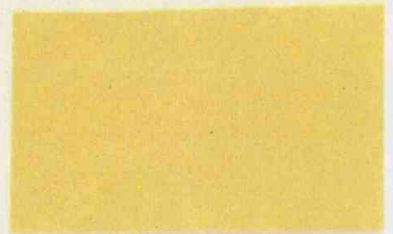


Reference.....

78a

NOTE.

Attached is the transcript of an interview  
*which took place on 1 August 1962*  
between D.1/Mr. Martin and Mrs. Flora SOLOMON  
passed to D.1. by A.2.A. on 25th September, 1962.



WARNING.

No action is to be taken on this material without  
reference to the responsible section, nor may its  
contents be disclosed outside the Service without  
permission.

(98)  
JC&SLtd  
Gp782/39  
CODE 18-76

*Mr/K5  
28.9.62.*

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Page 1.

R. 3

10.04

TOP SECRET

78a.

1. Aug 1962.

ROTHSCHILD

10.08

M. "You know roughly who I am, you know that VICTOR and I worked together during the war, you know that VICTOR left at the end of the war, and I soldiered on. Now my concern, for many years now, has been with Communist espionage - spying. VICTOR tells me that you have something that you think I ought to know."

S. "It's on my chest-on my back".

M. "That's right".

S. "Well, I'll start by saying, first of all explaining to you, why I've come to it now, to talk about it after all these years, because as far as I am concerned I'm referring you back 20 years -"

M. interrupted to comment on the fact that this would bring it back to 1942.

S. "No, no, no, no, '45, up until the end of the war. Why I am doing it at this point, why I didn't speak before, you might say this is really the first question that must come, this viewpoint of mine, is that I knew about it, and definitely, up to '39, from '37 to '39 I was in the picture, not involved and completely a-political, put it like that, but there were the - er - you know, when one was completely <sup>désarmé</sup> désarmé, when really I throw it back-my mind- I can't even tell you what my feelings were, what my views were, because I mean one was in such a muddle in '38. Munich, there came this you know. I must say that I am a very enthusiastic and ardent ~~xxxxxx~~ Zionist, this is my background and this has been my main interest and enthusiasm, and there I can throw myself in-happened since, from my youth."

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M. "You were living in London before the war."

S. "No, oh yes, I came to England- I'm Russian-and I came to England as a refugee in 1915, in fact not as a refugee, because I left Russia in 1914 for Paris, and I found myself that once you had left so I-this is by the way-but anyhow I am in England since 1915, and got engaged then to an Englishman, a regular soldier, and I couldn't marry until 19, and anyhow my family escaped in 1919, and I became British when I was 19, when I married. So my loyalties, my, sort of, whole conception of life is British, and I love this country, there is no other country for me, but Zionism has always been-I don't see any prospect and never found the prospect- my main interest, Dr. WEITZMANN, the first President-----was a very great friend of my father, and I was more or less, you know, in the shadow or light-I don't know how to call it-half our lives."

M. "Yes."

S. "So this was my chief, and is my chief, interest as far as enthusiasms are concerned, it was like that, but obviously there's no ?place? for it in England whatsoever.

Now, the years '37,'39, up to the moment when the war broke out, were, I must admit, muddled years as far as I'm concerned, and most people, and I think those who weren't muddled- (S. laughed and then added), I mean I mustn't laugh.

So here it is, I met KIM PHILBY, I couldn't tell you when, but I mean in the course of these years."

M. "What was that, '37?"

S. "Well, you know, I can't like this-I can't recollect whether it was '36,'37, but approximately."

M. "Approximately".

R. "Re-met him, because didn't you know KIM's father?".

S. "Yes I knew him as a child actually".

M. "Yes, that was when KIM's father was in the Indian Civil Service."

S. "No, I recollect, but there I may be wrong, that is the impression I have, that I met the PHILBY's, and I think that's definite, in

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S. cont. "Palestine years and years before, Did he live in Palestine?"

M. "Well, I'm not sure about that, he was in the Indian Civil Service, and after the first war he was in Mesopotamia as a Government official-".

S.(interrupting) "I have the impression that they lived in Palestine."

M. "Yes, well he left the Government service sometime in the 20's, about the middle '20's I think, and then of course the rest of his life was really spent in the Middle East."

S. "Well, anyhow I have the impression, I'm nearly sure, that there was a period when anyhow his wife, DORA, and the children were in Palestine, and I knew the little red-haired blond boy, that I remember. There was a contact, I liked the wife very much, DORA, she was a very charming woman. I re-met, since you put it like that, KIM, where and in whose house doesn't matter, try and piece it together in your office, but anyhow KIM was married to, and his second marriage I believe, to a German Jewish girl called LIZY."

M. "That's right, LIZY - er -"

S. "I can't remember."

M. "I can't remember, she was an Austrian."

S. "Ah, Austrian."

M. "Yes, well they married in '34 I think it was. KIM was up at Cambridge in '29 to '33, then he went to Austria and he married this girl."

S. "And was that his first wife."

M. "That was his first wife, yes."

S. "I thought that was his second."

M. "No, well KIM then would have only been in his very early 20's."

S. "Well, maybe, I mean I don't know anything about the first, you know, I had the impression she was."

M. "Did you meet this LIZY".

S. "Oh yes, yes I knew her a little bit, KIM and -- I met the young people, I'm much older, and we became friends like most of this sort of relationship starts. I was very

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S.cont. "I was very active, very busy, and probably quite stimulating because my work was very interesting. There was always a lively atmosphere around me, and plenty of young people, sort of, surrounded me. KIM developed a very great attachment to me, as a young man to a much older woman, and I must say I liked KIM very much, I liked his mind, I liked his face? and everything else.

When did the Spanish war break out?".

M. "In '36, yes, middle of '36".

10.16  
R.5.

S. "Then I must have met him before, because my first-I didn't know anything about KIM's views, nothing at all, no, it was this general revolt about life, situations, what's happening in Germany, and obviously I was very much involved with the Hitler situation, the refugees and everything else."

R. "Does that also apply to LIZY."

S. "LIZY I never cared for, as you know I can't give you even a picture of LIZY, LIZY was, in my mind, a secretive, non-buoyant personality, who seemed to be sort of also by the way."

M. "What was the relationship between KIM and LIZY, I mean what was the impression you got."

S. "Well you know frankly I never analysed it, but the impression was that there wasn't much love lost, it was like so many people, an ordinary relationship."

M. "But was she, at that time, politically conscious, whereas KIM wasn't, or didn't appear to be."

S. "You know up to the Spanish war I don't think politics came into it at all. My whole emphasis was what was happening in Germany, this was the chief sort of excitement, and I was very, very actively involved, refugees that was all that mattered."

M. "What were their circumstances then, they were living in Hampstead. What sort of life did they lead?."

R. "In '36"

M. "Yes, I think they were living in Hampstead the whole time, they came home in '34, as far as I remember they were living up there until the war, well really until KIM went away."

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S. "I don't think that I have ever been in their place".

M. "KIM's?"

S. "No, you see the picture was, I had a very comfortable, very pleasant house with a garden, lots of people came, and there was ----- ----, and that was the picture. Incidentally, I have found when that was, and it was now '41, so how old was he, I mean he wasn't so old. I had a full time job, and on top of it was all this refugee work in Bloomsbury House, where we used to collect, and this was a terrific period of busy-ness.

Then the Spanxish war broke out, I don't know where KIM went, but he disappeared from the scene, or went at least, it wasn't a question of disappearing, but he joined up. I had a shock when I first <sup>(did so?) heard</sup> ~~discovered~~ that KIM was <sup>on</sup> ~~in~~ FRANCO's side, this is where the big shock to, you see, my thoughts. Again I didn't give it much thought you know and so on, but I was ?certain? he wasn't on FRANCO's side, most of my friends weren't. And then an occasion <sup>but</sup> arose, and I don't remember who said this, /it was the son, the husband, the nephew I don't know, of a friend of mine, who was imprisoned in Spain, not a FRANCO's man, she was of course in dispair, and I was in the factory, you know, I was busy (?sitting?) with her."

M. "This was a <sup>relation</sup> friend of a relative of yours".

S. "Of some contact of mine." Mrs. S. couldn't remember

R. "Whose son was imprisoned by the so called republicans".

S. "By FRANCO, he was either in the Brigade or what ever <sup>he</sup> he was, this is very vague".

M. "But he was the father of a friend of yours".

S. "Father, nephew, I'm afraid I can't - really I can't tell you, it's so vague."

R. "Sorry, but I thought you said a moment ago, and I thought you said once before when we had a talk, that this friend of yours' son was imprisoned by the other side, not by FRANCO".

S. "No, ~~xxxxxxxx~~ by FRANCO, by FRANCO, but I'll tell you what was strange, this is as I remember it, was the -----, well KIM came backwards and forwards, Was he a journalist?".

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M. "He was, yes"

S. "Aha, so he came backwards and forwards. I told KIM about the capture of this friend of mine."

M. "The friend was English?"

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R. 6.

S. "Oh yes. And KIM then volunteered to help to free him, this is the point, and I thought then, well here's KIM on FRANCO's side, this is where my question came into my mind, Why is KIM, how wonderful of him, his having such friendship, such loyalties, he is helping on the enemy's side, put it like that. You see this was the problem."

R. "Helping you, who were anti-FRANCO/<sup>in</sup>getting somebody out of FRANCO's clutches."

S. "That's right, you see that's what -"

R. (interrupting) "I'm sorry I misunderstood -"

M. (interrupting) No, well at that stage you saw KIM as clearly on FRANCO's side, Did you?"

S. "After that, up till then no, before KIM appeared to be on FRANCO's side, before Spain, KIM was left wing, normal, young, as people were at that period".

M. "And he appeared not to be in contact with the right".

S. "That's right. Then I discovered, it was so shocking, that KIM is working for FRANCO. In spite of that, because of our friendship -". MRS. S. became rather difficult to follow, but referred again the the young man, and went on to say that KIM had said "I'll see what I can do, and I'll send you a message, and anyhow I'll make enquiries what's happening and so forth. And one day I got a message from the Times, who got it from a journalist of the Times, to come to the Times and, through the Times I got the message, I don't know typewritten or whatever it was, you know how these papers are sent, at that time I don't know if they had these machines. But, anyhow there was a typewritten message, like a telegram, to say that this young man had been released. So that was my first understanding that he can't be so 100% pro-FRANCO."

R. "But why?"

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S. "Releasing the -"

R. (interrupting) "On your behalf, I see what you mean, but on the other hand you might equally well have concluded from this that he was very influential on FRANCO's side".

S. "Influential, but you see -"

R. (interrupting) "but nevertheless had another loyalty, but that might be you, it might not be a political thing".

S. "Quite, but you see, perhaps this is my makeup that I get so enthusiastic about the cause, I mean I wouldn't help ~~xxxxxx~~ today, even today, to release an Arab, who for some reason has been spying on this side and was in an Israeli prison".

R. "Yes, you seem to have displayed a very remarkable intuition in not concluding that he was doing it out of his friendship for you."

S. "But look VICTOR, at that period, you see my friendship with KIM was a friendship like with you or -----, do you follow, it was up till then."

R. (interrupting) "I see, it wasn't as intense -"

Everyone spoke at once. Mrs. S. agreeing that it wasn't as intense.

M. "Well, you must continue."

S. "When he came back, and whether he released him, whether he was freed or whether he sent a message that he <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ all right, I can't tell you, anyhow he did something on behalf of this young man, and there was (peace, not long before everybody was very happy.)"

M. "And the young man came back".

S. "That I don't know, I don't even, I'm not even sure that I even knew the young man, you see this was a completely incidental story, but when ~~he~~ KIM came back I began to give ----- you're working for FRANCO, you see then it came out, and then KIM started to, more or less insinuated to me that he was really not pro-FRANCO. You see this is where the ~~xxxxxx~~ curtain lifted, and he began to confide in me, never a 100% you know, always hinting. I have never had a 100% talk with him with all this that I know, he has never 100% told me, I'm doing this, I'm doing that, it <sup>was</sup> always by implication. Well, anyhow I thought, I began to see quite a lot

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S. cont. of him, because every time he came, or visited me, I think by then the relation with LITZI was already pretty bad".

M. "Yes, well this was what, '37 ?"

S. "Yes, and I began to understand, never completely explained, that he is unhappy, that this a relationship which doesn't mean anything, it was odd, KIM had never explained to me, you know like when we sit together and bore right to the bottom or you would confide in a friend, but I mean, his sort of attachment to me grew

10.27.

R. 7. and grew. He was on bad terms, incidentally, with his family, his family - I don't think they met very much".

M. "With his mother ?"

S. "A great attachment to his mother, but completely non - - with her, what-really an attachment, attachment without comprehension, put it like that, on the mother's part and then there ~~was~~ a lot of visitors, whom he was very fond of.

Then he disappeared, he came, and very frequently he even stayed in my house, he slept in the boy's room, my boy was at school and I had a spare room, and lots of people stayed, I mean it isn't KIM alone.

Well then, once he came back terrifically agitated, I think the war was over, I mean his assignment in Spain was finished I don't know when, how long did his work go on ?"

M. "I'm not sure exactly, he remained on the Times".

S. "Oh yes, but what I mean."

M. "I think he did have a spell in London before, of course, he went out with the B.E.F. to France".

S. "Of course. Well, you see it was a - - - - and a very agitated life. I, myself, at that period, had a very agitated life of my own. It has never been a relationship, and couldn't have been, you see this difference of age, I was much too occupied with my own affairs, which allowed me to concentrate too much on him as a person, put it like that,



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S. cont. "How can I best describe it, here's a young man, very pleasant young man, I'm very fond of him, he is intelligent, he is stimulating, he's attached to me, and there it is. You ask me whether I have ever been a mistress of KIM, so far removed as - it is raining at the moment".

R. "But he had a fixation".

S. "I think he developed a fixation, quite definitely, because he wouldn't have brought me into his innermost secrets, I mean that is obvious, he had complete confidence in me, put it like that.

And once he came back, and he rang me up, and said oh please come out etc., I'm in a terrible state and so on, and I did, I remember some Spanish restaurant or something like that. And he again <sup>insisted</sup> ~~visited~~ that he is now in a very, very difficult position, and so I said well you come here, you say this, you say that, I don't understand, what is it, is it family, is it your wife, is it your work, what is it, I mean like losing your job. And then he said, well you know you seem to be awfully dumb, don't you understand what I am doing, and so I said no, I haven't got a clue, I mean I know you're involved here and there, and he said don't you see that I am a 100% on the Soviet side, and that I am helping them, that I am carrying a terrifically important and difficult assignment, and I am in danger, and I am really terrifically tense, you know that's what he was".

M. "Can we just stop there. Do you think there's any means of dating this? Had he just come back from Spain, did he go to Spain again afterwards".

S. "I can't say, I know it was well before the war".

M. "You say he'd just come back when he rang you up and said let's go out, was that coming back from Spain or? - You don't know".

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R. Well let's try and pin point it, when the hell did the war break out.

S. " '39".

R. "It was well before that".

S. "Yes, I think it was in the Munich year".

M. "Yes, that was '38 wasn't it"

S. " '38"

M. " '38 ?"

R. "We're none of us frightfully good on dates are we ?"

M. "It really was '38"

S. " '38, oh definitely, it just a year before the war"

M. "And it was before, you think this confession"

S. "No, I think it was after Munich, because you see one felt one was so, so, in such a terrible state, I mean there was Hitler marching, there was Russia, there was - the whole thing was, and I have to add that my feelings then, as far as Hitler, and choice of Russia or Hitler were quite definite".

M. "Yes, there was no longer any question in your mind".

S. "No question in my mind, and if I had to choose I would sooner have Russia than, than Hitler and it's still today, so I admit that it hasn't changed for one minute. If I'm asked would you sooner be red or dead I know what I will answer, and I mean completely, as I say I am completely A-politically, I'm an anti-Communist, 100% and particularly since their attitude to Jews and everything else, and altogether my mind is much clearer now, what I think, obviously years have helped me.

But at that period, I can't say to you that I was horrified, shocked, or in any way impressed, you know that. Oh here is a dangerous man I didn't have that feeling".

M. "No".

S. "No, I thought perhaps he's right, perhaps - you know, he shouldn't work for us, I don't know.

This was my attitude, and therefore you see I am not very, if you are indignant you remember things, but if you are partially in sympathy you don't.

He then tried to enlist my help, that is where you see

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S. cont. "in the doghouse ??? Why don't you, why - I admit you are intelligent, you are extrovanic ?? why don't you help us and so on".

M. "At the restaurant ?"

S. "At the restaurant, well I said, look here this is not my interests, I consider that it is underground work, perhaps it has to be done, hasn't to be done, I am not of that type, it doesn't interest me, it is horrifying as far as I am concerned, forgive me because you are intelligent, but I hate everything (laughter from the men as well as Mrs. S. rendered her next few words inaudible) - - - I know it has to be done, and I mean I respect the person who has the courage, and the perservance, and the perfection, I mean one's country needs help, but it isn't my field and its out of the question

Well, very shortly after that, I received, and I tried to piece it together this morning, but unfortunately I can't, a most expensive telegram from Paris ? meet you there, there, You know, I think I told you it was very much worded like these messages were during the war, my ?tante? has a plume or something like that".

M. "You mean a sort of code, as it were".

S. "Well semi-code telegram, I mean it was completely un-understandable"

M. "Well now, you mean you received this through the ordinary -

S. "Yes".

M. "Through the Post Office, an ordinary telegram"

S. "An ordinary telegram. Well when KIM, very shortly after this, I was puzzled and then I thought someone had played a joke on me or something happened".

R. "But it was signed KIM".

S. "No, it wasn't signed".

M. "Can you recollect at all what it said"

S. "No, unfortunately, you see I've tried so hard in my bath this morning to concentrate, and I can't, I really

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S. cont. "can't"

M. "But it had something to do with meeting"

S. "Yes, yes, it had - I mean what it appeared to have said was that I was called to something, to ~~Paris~~"

M. "Now when you received this, you didn't associate it with KIM".

S. "No, to begin with not at all, but afterwards I thought Oh maybe this is the follow up of KIM's confession".

M. "How did it - I mean what was the relationship in time between your last ? meeting ? and the telegram".

S. "It must have been very short, because I told KIM about this telegram, I said, by any chance had that any meaning with what you said to me, because I told you so definitely to count me out, and it's too absurd and everything else.

10.37.

R. 9. And KIM then - now did he really explain to me, or did he hint to me, or did he insinuate that it was something to do with it, but anyhow my impression is that this was the source where it came from".

R. "Have you shown the telegram to KIM and said - "

S. "No I didn't".

M. "Well, did KIM raise the question of the telegram or ?"

S. "No, I did, I said - I said by any chance, I received the most extraordinary telegram, could it have anything to do with this conversation, and he more or less implied to me that it had. I'm convinced that it was, now in my mind, not now but I always was the same, that it had something to do with it, that I was being pushed into it".

M. "Can you remember, did it instruct - It came from Paris ?"

S. "It came from Paris"

R. "?What? the telegram".

S. "Yes".

R. "It came from Paris ?"

S. "The ?-----? to come to some sort of rendezvous, put it like that, but you see it was so out of my field, my interest, my thought, that it puzzled me for a minute, and then I put it aside".

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- M. "Did you by any chance think it wasn't meant for you"
- S. "No".
- M. "Though it wasn't signed".
- S. "No, no, it was addressed to my house and there it was".
- R. "But if somebody sent me an unsigned telegram telling me to go to Paris, I think I would have assumed that there had been a muddle at the Post Office".
- S. "Well it was addressed to me, it was addressed to the correct address. I used to go to Paris a lot, I mean after all that period, you know one moved. I have a tremendous number of friends in Paris, and particularly at that period, had. I don't know why, but don't forget I was 100% busy, I had a full time job, from morning to night, to do with people, I started and was in charge of Marks and Spencer's personnel and welfare, to keep the whole thing, I had a terrifically responsible, and very exciting, and very interesting job, which absolutely absorbed me 100% as you can imagine. I had a child, who was then at Eton and ?-----? I had an enormous number of friends, and I was doing for a great number of refugees, you know, care, so you can imagine that my brain, at that period, was not really in a state, or my interests, to concentrate on that, and I did not think it so very important, you see I would like to say that, if today, or even post war, or during the war, if such a thing had happened obviously one would have taken it out in a quite different spirit than at that period".
- M. Well how did KIM explain it, when you said to KIM this telegram, what does it mean and what is it you want, what did he say".
- S. "He did confirm that it had something to do with the conversation we had over lunch, another try to involve me. But you see, I don't know - do you know KIM ?"
- M. "Yes, I knew KIM, during the war, during the last war".
- S. "Well you know him, you know that KIM never - I mean as a correct ?-----? of KIM, was very - he was articulate, in spite of his stammer, but at the same time never explained anything to the full, you knew there was always - "

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10.41. An i/c telephone call for R. interrupted Mrs. S.

10.42. S continued. "I suppose it depends on one's own make up,

R.0. fortunately if I wasn't interested—R's cough drowned S.

"I would like to say this, I haven't got one streak of curiosity. I love people, I like to be surrounded by people, I don't get terrifically, personally, absolutely involved with people, and if, even a subject that interests me enormously, for the moment I can be interested, but then I return to my own sort of vibrations, I can't quite explain. I don't try, sort of thing, unless it is important, intellectually or personally. At that period I did not consider that it was terrifically important, you know that is a stage further, I can't make it out myself, it was probably my attitude".

R. "Well, I think really the explanation of this is quite simple and that is, that you were highly preoccupied with other things and not in a sort of atmosphere of leisure, and if one is highly preoccupied, I imagine, one doesn't pay attention so much to peripheral things which are not of interest to oneself".

S. "Yes, but on the other hand, you might ask yourself, if one - I don't know if you saw that thing "Photo Finish", did you see it?"

M. "Yes, I did".

S. "You did, do you remember, if one throws oneself back into that period of ?oneself? one asks oneself when faced with time, somebody who is working and so on, I mean clearly one should list ----"

M. interrupting "Extraordinary that one didn't take more interest at the time you mean, yes"

S. "Exactly, I mean one asks oneself I mean how, but you see, it was a terrifically, ideologically it was a terrifically muddled period, one wasn't at all sure who was right, who was wrong, where the danger lay and so on. Look, both of you are too young to really have the same reaction as I had then, at that period young people - I

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10.45.

S. cont. "don't know what age you are, and so forth, were dogmatic, and yet not visualising what the world really can present, as it presents to me, I mean could one see the rottenness of the real nature which arises, all right, communism at that period, hadn't really shown it's proper face had it?"

M. "No, it seemed to be the only answer".

S. "It seemed the only answer, absolutely, that was the reply, the choice, and therefore - I mean if today, well that's why I am coming out with it, because you see what I think of it today, well what we all think of it today. No I didn't say very much, except I received this telegram. I have to add that at that period, I was very much involved I had a very ardent, a very important person in life, and the man in my life was KERENSKY".

M. Alexander KERENSKY ?

S. Alexander KERENSKY - so you can imagine that - again not politically, I mean I regarded it - as far as politics, he and I, and I'll tell you in a minute why, I had a ?great influence? and I think that was the main reason why I didn't marry him. Anyhow, I never mentioned this story, you know KIM's to KERENSKY, but KERENSKY said to me, ----- you know, I don't like this young man, I don't like his views. Now, I didn't know his views, I knew it was secret, you know what I mean, but I never heard him express views, but he had his suspicions ? I must say"

M. "Did KIM know of ----

S. "Of my romance ? Oh yes".

M. "Yes".

S. "Oh yes he did, and, of course took a very negative attitude to KERENSKY, which I, at the time as the sort of natural sort of resentment, if he had this sort of infatuation for me. But again I was, you see, KIM as a man, was to me a boy".

10.47.

M. "Let's get back to the telegram. You met KIM again after the telegram, was it a long period between the telegram and meeting him, you don't know, presumably not very long".

R. 11.

S. "No".

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M. "But you didn't, I mean the moment you received the telegram you didn't think ah that's KIM, and lift up the telephone and ask him".

S. "No, you see why I am so surprised is that the telegram didn't puzzle me terribly, this is the point, but I did after a while, you know thinking about it".

M. "Did-did it strike you ---".

S. interrupting "It didn't strike me".

M. "I mean couldn't it have been connected with ? KARENSKY

S. "No, no, I mean KARENSKY wouldn't send me such a mad telegram, put it like that".

M. "He was living in Paris then ?"

S. "He was living in Paris, and that is why I very frequently went over to Paris, that was the only reason. I even, for a time, had a flat in Paris. He used to come very often to London, well you understand my position was terrifically precarious and difficult, I mean here I had this terrific romance, I was very exposed in my work, I had my son whom I wanted also to keep it from him, the whole situation, my life was much too busy for anything".

R. said he had been out to put on the kettle, and had missed part of the conversation.

R. "Did KARENSKY see this curious telegram, did I dream it or did you say to me once that he said to you that he didn't ----"

S. interrupting "like him"

R. "You didn't tell him of the telegram"

S. "No, he <sup>did</sup> not like KIM".

M. "Did you ever tell him what KIM said"

S. "No"

M. "Never".

S. "I want to tell you that I have never, never breathed a word, about KIM until I met VICTOR, not a soul, not my son, not myself I tried to forget it".

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R. "I think I ought to mention here that I haven't spoken to you in detail about this, but the only thing I did say was that it must be understood you must not be implicated in this conversation later".

S. Well, I mean Mr. Martin please, and I mean that is the one reason that I am here, because I have this complete confidence that VICTOR wouldn't expose me".

M. "That goes without saying".

S. "Yes, I accepted it, otherwise I wouldn't do it. I would like, here before I go further, to explain to you, why I have come out with it now, and not before. You see, up to, no during, Oh no perhaps I shouldn't - no I must do that later, because it is not right, let's go on".

M. "Yes. You regarded KIM and KARENSKY as on opposite sides of the fence".

S. "Well, obviously, obviously".

M. "Yes, and was that your reason for not telling KARENSKY ?"

S. "Absolutely, absolutely. You see now with KARENSKY my relationship was, I mean obviously it was a tremendous, ardent love affair".

M. "But you didn't entirely agree with him politically".

S. "Absolutely not, and I still don't".

M. "No".

S. "So you see, there we are, I never agreed with him because -----  
----- that I didn't believe that we will ever return back, that he will return back and will take the reins. His whole existence was so much that he was at the head of the ?----? I felt that he muddled up the things very much, I did not, but I loved him, and loved him as a person. I felt that as the leader and sort of head he was completely unsuited, and he was thrown out by the wave of - you know".

10.52.

R. 12.

M. "Did you tell him that ?"

S. "Oh yes, I mean over that we had terrific absolute disagreement and I didn't foresee that, ever, ever, RUSSIA will return back to a liberal KARENSKY regime, which I have to hold this belief, I felt that a new world was coming, and that we have to accept it,

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- 10.51. S. cont. and that perhaps was my hope that things will get better, but it will never, the stock will never be reverted".
- M. "So in fact, you knew that ~~KER~~RENSKY was working both openly and underground".
- S. "He wasn't working then under the ground at that period".
- M. "Really, I don't really know".
- Both S. and M. spoke together
- S. "No, no, at that period it was, it was printing, and the work you could do ---"
- M. "Yes, but I mean they must sell what they want".
- S. "Oh, of course, I mean he published a paper in Paris, which I helped him with, because of my attachment for him, but I was never with him ideologically, ideologically yes, but <sup>tactically</sup> technically not".
- M. "The tactics that you thought were wrong, rather than ---"
- S. "It was tactics, at that period he was the same as we all are, he was a liberal, who wanted a liberal regime in Russia, as a socialist but he is no more, this is, I mean --"
- M. interrupting "He's gone to the right"
- S. "Oh completely right, I mean sure he is more right than ----  
(S's laughter drowned her following few words).
- M. "Do you ever see him".
- S. "Oh yes, oh yes --- see him, he ----"
- M. "But he must be a very, very old man now".
- S. "He's 81 now, and he's half blind, and he is writing his memoirs now it should be tremendously interesting".
- M. "Well, thats a digression".
- S. "Yes, that's a different thing. No I did not show him - ~~KER~~RENSKY the telegram, I never discussed KIM and I never divulged KIM's secrets to ~~KER~~RENSKY, never. A-- because, anyhow I don't see things as he, because I knew this young man was in great danger, and the first point is that I didn't want to be implicated, I didn't want to be wrapped up in it, it's not my affair".
- M. "When you say danger, you mean that KIM himself told you that he was in danger".
- S. "This was the point, at this lunch he told me that he was in

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10.55.

S. cont. terrific danger, at that period".

M. "But did he give you any idea what he meant by that".

S. "No, but he came in a terrible state, and he said he was in great danger, and that he was living completely on his nerves, and was very tense, and I said I'm not surprised if you are doing work like that, you know, I mean you are in false pretences. Then soon after that, I began to realise that the relationship between him and LITZI was a completely business relationship".

M. "Do you mean it had been from the start".

S. "Now I think so, now - I mean I've thought that for a long time, that this was a business partnership. Well then we're coming to '39. (pause) The moment the war broke out, KIM went, he went away didn't he ?"

M. "He went over with the B.E.F."

S. "He went for ---"

M. "He was still on the "Times".

S. "He was on the Times. And the next I remember, KIM being one of the first people who came back after Dunkirk. And he came and stayed at my house, that I remember. I mean I was probably one of the first people who had the information about Dunkirk, I had a description of the whole thing. "By then, of course, I was already 100% involved in the war, and KIM's attitude from that moment began to change, ----- You see, I said to KIM, but now we have other things and other attitudes, and I mean I am not interested in anything anymore but the war, but what about Russia and everything else, I said fine, at that time Russia was not in the thing - Oh, was Dunkirk - when Russia had the pact with Germany".

M. "The Germans - Soviet pact".

S. "Well, of course, that was it, I said well Russia, as far as I am concerned Russia is finished, with Germany I mean. My whole attitude was then so clear and so absolutely defined ? that KIM began to see me not as a friend any more".

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- 10.57. M. "In other words, when the German - soviet pact was signed"
- R. 13. S. "Yes".
- M. "You felt then that all your affection for Russia - "
- S. (interrupting) "Absolutely, it was over you see, if before I was youthful in action, but not youthful in ideology, from that moment onwards obviously it was dead".
- M. "But not to KIM".
- S. "No, not to KIM definitely. Well KIM's friendship remained for me, but his confidence in me was shaken, but in spite of that words were dropped, you know I still understood that he was working, put it like that. Then comes the thing that I helped and assisted him meeting one of my assistants at Marks & Spencers, AILEEN FURSE, whom, I brought the introduction, because she was the cousin of the man who worked at Marks and Spencers, NEIL FURSE, do you know him".
- M. "No".
- S. "Well, NEIL asked me one day would I introduce his cousin, who is sweet, a very affectionate girl, very gifted, highly neurotic and ought to be occupied, the time it was before the call up, we are now in the phoney war, you know. And would I try and place her, I did, I liked AILEEN very much and I believed then, as I believe now that neurosis is very often the result of too much leisure and no purpose in life ----- this wouldn't occur, it was the question of the girl. And I engaged her, and she became one of my assistants, and very much liked the way we worked together, she was a ? good ? worker, didn't have neurosis to begin with, and I thought aha, her life is all right now. Well, she had a very unhappy home life, she had a father who married three times, and I don't know, hopeless and no home, and she was terrifically attached to me".
- M. "She ceased to live at home ?"
- S. "No but she lived at home, or partially at home, but she stayed a great deal with me. Then, where are we now, yes, she must have been there during Dunkirk, in my house, because that is when KIM

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S. cont. "met her. KIM and AILEEN fell in love, that I believe was quite serious to begin with. Personally I don't believe now that KIM really falls in love, I mean he was infatuated, but his purpose in life is so fixed on his political work, and I think that comes before anything else. Now AILEEN - the FURSE's are a very upstanding well known family, the uncle is one of the well known M.P.'s STAMPFIELD ? Do you know a man called STAMPFIELD ? Anyhow, it's perfectly respectable, very conservative, very organised, AILEEN's father ?----? And, they decided, KIM decided that he is going to ----, not to marry her I think, you see this is where the thing started. But, he is in love with Aileen, and AILEEN's mad about him (KIM), so I said fine, it seemed to me all right, but I would like to warn you KIM, that AILEEN is very neurotic. And I said to AILEEN, I like KIM very much, he is very nice, but he is so involved with his work, and everything pertaining to his work, that I don't know whether it will really be the thing you are looking for. And I said to KIM well, obviously you must get a divorce, and if you can't what are you going to do. So, he said I can't divorce LITZI, because the war is on, LITZI is a refugee or, you know, here, and I can't go back on LITZI, and I can't marry AILEEN, but we're together. And they lived together until I think the third child was born".

M. "Yes, they actually married in - ".

S. "Much later".

M. "In '46".

S. " '46. Why all the same do you not - - - - -  
- - - - - to KIM I mean, how can you face the situation, and he saying I need LITZI now, immediately and frankly, you see, I need LITZI I can't - - - LITZI as a foreigner".

R. "Do we all know what he's doing - undoubtedly".

S. "No, in fact I remember".

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M. interrupting } "So there was no pretence then, on KIM's part, that he was living with AILEEN"3.

S. "Mr. MARTIN, you must think I'm mad, at that period I wasn't interested who was living with whom, what was happening".

M. "Well, LITZI was living with somebody else".

S. "Oh I know that LITZI was living with someone else, oh that I know, I heard of it, that I know, it doesn't worry me. She had a German friend, whom she eventually married ----

M. interrupting "She married another chap".

S. "Well, LITZI knew that I knew the history, but it was never discussed between us, everything was assumed ----"

M. "May I interrupt there, LITZI knew the history, do you mean that she knew that KIM had confided in you ?

S. "Yes".

M. "She did ?".

S. "She did, because LITZI talked to me as if I was in the picture, but never discussing people, can you --"

M. interrupting "Well, it's hard to imagine, but I-I certainly don't - it's very interesting, I didn't - " sentence left in mid-air.

S. "Oh yes, LITZI knew that I knew".

M. "So that they were completely as one, let's say, on the professional side".

S. "Oh yes".

M. "There wasn't any doubt about that".

S. "About what ?".

M. "That KIM was completely frank with LITZI, as to what he was doing".

S. "Oh yes, I'm convinced, I'm convinced, and now I'm convinced above everything that he married AILEEN and had all these children to have a wonderful facade".

M. "Do you mean for professional purposes or to compensate or what".

S. "No, no for professional purposes. This is why I tell you -"

R. interrupted to say that he had to go out for a while, if the

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telephone rang they were just to say that R. was out, if R. didn't get back from his meeting, their lunch would be brought in at 7 minutes to 1 p.m. Mrs. S. expressed horror at the idea R. might not be having lunch with them. R. said he had to go to this meeting, and he thought it would go on, but they seemed to be getting on very well, so he wasn't worried, he would be back as soon as possible.

M. "Well what you were saying was that you were quite sure that LITZI and KIM were professionally, at any rate, completely at one".

S. Completely so, I mean completely so. I think that was a working partnership, and had to be for a certain time when KIM felt that it was safe, that she was safe, or he was safe, to have the divorce".

M. "Yes. Well we were really talking about AILEEN, weren't we ?"

S. "Did-did you know AILEEN ?"

M. "No, I never met her".

S. "Well, AILEEN of course is one of these terrific tragic figures, turned out -"

M. interrupted "Do you know what her trouble, I mean the trouble before she joined you, before you met, you said that she was a neurotic, had you any idea what the basis of it was".

11.06. S. "Well I'll tell you her trouble, because it developed in a most  
R. 15. tragic and psychiatric way. No, when she was first introduced to me by NEIL, I mean neurotic, well who pays attention to that. She developed a terrific fixation on me, and one, I was, although very flattered at first I had her to stay in my home and everything else, it was not so serious, still I was her boss, and I was very strict with her in work, particularly as I had felt they were jealousies you know how it is, you know she stayed with me privately and everything else, I was the ---- one ---- I knew. Whenever I was very sick, something I had eaten, was very ill, this is where her illness started, and what I am saying, this had nothing to do with KIM incidentally, it was simply an ill phase

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that KIM took on. She developed a poisoned finger, so with one thing after another, was a sort of dispensary. And eventually, I mean all doctors and what nots were laid on, and her mother very anxious, and as I tell you she was a very wealthy woman, you know, nothing but the top for EILEEN, she was taken to a nursing home, everybody was very puzzled, nobody understood what sort of illness it is, all - eventually, all 9 fingers were tested, I remember she kept one little bit of paper, saying so. And I visited her in nursing home, somewhere in Wigmore Street, then one day I came, and the doctor or the matron said to me don't go in the doctor's left a message that she's not to have visitors, but people stopped ?visiting ?, so after they'd stopped they asked me to come, and the doctor said they have at last diagnosed, and EILEEN has admitted that it was completely self-inflicted, and you know it was so bad that she very nearly lost arm, or hand or whatever it was. The doctor said to me, you realise that she is a completely abnormal case, and it's the highest sort of type of hysteria that I have ever come across".

M. "She was a lesbian ?"

S. "No, no, she might have had lesbian inclinations, it was more because, even before she made the attempt, you see that I didn't know, before she even joined, she had all sorts of self-inflicted injuries you know, these terrible crises in her life, and she must have been an invalid for many years before, but that's another story. But every time that she wanted to punish someone or, she ----- she didn't get any help with it. Well then you see this was, and that was before she met KIM. Well after this, that's why I said to KIM I'd better tell you the story of this and I said, look KIM you are undertaking something terrific, because she is a highly, highly undependable girl, never mind, you know, why he was even cross with me that I warned him, he was so determined to be associated with EILEEN".

M. "But there was a genuine affection there, do you think, or do

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M. cont. "you think there was - how did they go about it"

S. "I even then didn't think that it was, that (pause), well my analysis, but then, look again I have to tell, I had no time to cope, to --- --- to the situation, even if it concerned human beings, at that period, I mean, just think one's really, 11.12. that one's real involvement I mean after all it was terrific.

R. 16. (pause) When did the Prince of Wales abdicate ?

M. "'36 wasn't it, it couldn't have been later than '37"

S. "Yes, because I so well remember last when I went to that hospital, the papers were just screaming, you know abdication and so on, so I remember that date".

M. "Oh I see that was a long, long time - "

S. "Oh a long time before, a long time before, you see then she was cured and the doctor told me to be stricter with her than ever, ignore it. Of course no one knew that I was in her ?phase ? and incidentally she never -----, but I'm positive she came back into the world".

M. Well, they lived together".

S. "What ?"

M. "They met and they lived together".

S. "They met in '39, no when was Dunkirk '40, '40 and they lived together, and they had a home. EILEEN had a great friend called FRANK BIRCH, do you know FRANK BIRCH ?, FRANK BIRCH was --"

M. "No, I don't think I do".

S. "Oh you must, he was one of the heads in Bletchley, in that set up"

M. "Yes, I do, I know -----"

S. "He was the examiner for the Foreign Office, he was a weird little chap, he was a Professor at ---- or wherever it was, I forget, at the same time he created a pantomime I mean he was a weird sort of person".

M. "I never knew him, but I do remember the name now, he was at Bletchley ----"

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S. "Oh yes, he was one of the very heads, I think".

M. "Yes".

S. "And he was a great friend of EILEEN's".

M. "Before she met KIM".

S. "Oh yes, before she met KIM, and that's how I met FRANK BIRCH, and he belonged to the crowd at my house, and I knew that in world war 1, he was a very important person in the ?characters? he used to tell ? us all sorts of things, you know before the war, about all sorts of exploits, and so on, like one of these detective stories, and the moment the war broke out he obviously, sort of, he disappeared from one's sight, occasionally saw him, but I mean again KIM did not know him well, -----, and then I knew he was at Bletchley, and it was through FRANK BIRCH that KIM came into your work".

M. "Was it ?"

S. "Yes".

M. "I didn't know".

S. "But, of course, FRANK not having the slightest inkling, I'm sure, of what KIM was doing before, or what his ideology was, but that was how he came into it. Well again you might ask me, how is it that I didn't warn FRANK BIRCH, that this was the wrongest (?) man to take in, well I don't know myself why I didn't, I can't tell you, now I know I should have, but I just can't tell you, this is the one thing that I can't explain to myself, but I didn't. And KIM became, obviously very successful at the work. By then, when he started working, now we are already in the real war, air raids and everything else, I saw very little now - Oh no, I'm wrong, you know it's so long ago".

M. "Well I don't want to interrupt you, I'm surprised that you haven't drawn in other friends of KIM's, I mean ---"

S. (interrupting) "Well I'll tell you Mr. MARTIN absolutely, and I told VICTOR, that I'm only going to talk about two people, and I'm not going to draw in anybody, because I've no evidence about

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S. cont. "anybody else, and I'm not going to mention names, just for the sake of mentioning a name, because I just don't see that this is right"

M. (interrupting) "Can I ask a question later about other people that I think - well we'll see .

S. "I'm not sure".

M. "I mean, for example, you told me that FRANK BIRCH brought KIM in".

S. "Oh yes".

M. "I had believed it was Guy BURGESS who brought KIM in".

S. "Oh yes, BURGESS, well I know about him".

M. "Well let's keep off GUY for the moment".

S. "I think that Guy BURGESS, at that period, had not joined himself, no definitely not, at that time GUY was as much at a loose end as KIM was, it just the period when people began to think --".

11.17. R. 17.

M. "Yes, what am I going to do".

S. "What am I going to do, no, no, I'm sure it wasn't GUY, I'm convinced it wasn't".

M. "Well let me come to GUY later".

S. "Yes. Well. They lived together, I mean let's call it they got married, and at that time I lived in Addison ~~2~~ Road, The air raids had started. I was the initiator of the British restaurants, you see I said to my boss, SIMON MARKS, that I --".

M. (interrupting) "Was it, wait, it was Marks and Spencers ?".

S. "What ?".

M. "It was Marks and Spencers you mean who introduced this".

S. "No, no, no, I said to my boss, SIMON MARKS, well I must do war work and I can't stay, and he said, for Heaven's sake you can't leave now, do your work and do your war work, and combine the two things, do what you like, he gave me complete carte blanche, you see, combine and do what you like, and I thought this was a wonderful chance, I can use the whole machinery and the whole apparatus, and it is, Oh much before the air-

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S. cont. "raids started, I started the first British restaurant,

foreseeing , I must say that then I had foresight, that the time will come when we will be very short of food, it was on the eve of the air-raids, ----- much work, to call our staff ?, and everything else, and I felt well this is the ?type ?, and I opened one of these communal eating places, somewhere ----- or whatever it is, and Lord Woolton heard of it, and sent for me and said what's all this I hear, why is there this great big panic, because I said that the reason for this is because we will be short of food, he disapproved of it to begin with, he said, you know, they're so crazy, and so I said, no I felt that this was all right and let me do something with this experiment, and then he came and saw it was a good idea, well then, of course, I was proved right, and it became a terrific thing, a terrifically big job, and I was able to combine it by using all the Marks and Spencers staff, wherever we had a big store I immediately dashed down, like Coventry, I remember, because I was probably one of the first down there, and we immediately got hold of all the staff, and pushed them out there at the restaurant ----- (S's voice trailed off). Down at the docks and so forth, so you can imagine that, with all this work, really, one's mind wasn't on KIM ? I wasn't interested, subconsciously, somewhere, occasionally, a thought came to me, I wonder what is cooking there, I wonder what is happening, but at the same time, you know, from what I saw, he (KIM) became very popular with all the reliable people, and he became very, very secretive, so I decided that ~~it was~~ he was doing secret work, fine you keep your secrets and, you know, and as I have said to you, I'm not curious, especially during the war, I wasn't curious, I didn't want to know things

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S. cont. "I wasn't supposed to know, like for instance, you know there was a very secret department, probably you remember, in Michael House in Marks and Spencers itself, and I've helped these people at night all - was it part of your set up ?"

M. "Well, it wasn't directly".

S. "Yes, but I mean -".

M. "it was connected".

S. "You know that I worked with the head of this, for feeding purposes and for shelter and for what not, and I have still today no idea what they were doing there, you know I just made a blank what I don't have to know, or oughtn't to know, I didn't want to know, my life was too full to want to know what - and anyhow during the war I certainly didn't want to know because I thought it was best not .

M. "Yes".

11.22. S. "It was not my nature to bother. And I, I moved from  
R.18. Addison Road, I then tried to find, because this, really this was a very antique house, and so on. I moved to Carrington House which was supposed to be safe, it had a shelter and what not and it was much nearer my work".

M. "I don't suppose you would mind if I smoke a pipe".

S. "Please do. I don't know if that is relevant, it is relevant, because then my friend, you know, I just left my friend and took this furnished flat. EILEEN and KIM had no where to live, and I said move into my place if you like, and they moved in with BURGESS, to the flat".

M. "This was the old flat in Addison Road ?".

S. "This was the old house in Addison Road. And they stayed there for quite a while, and I told them, you see, by then my flat became absolutely essential, because it was so central, and it had a shelter, and somehow, lots and lots of people, I mean, it really became Euston Station".

M. "In Carrington House".

S. "In Carrington House, and KIM and EILEEN used to come,

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S. cont. "and then of course KIM brought a number of his friends, and I saw that KIM was very enthusiastic for the war, and everything else, I mean by then everybody was working like a so and so, and it was not even the custom with KIM and me, but I mean it wasn't - so that he's not talking about his work, he is not talking about anything, and I never said to KIM what I should have said, what about your attitude now, what's happening, I never asked. But KIM became more and more morose with me, and one night he stayed he said - he thanked me very much for your ?chats ?, and of course for your house, we have now found where to live, and he moved out. Another thing which happened that I discovered that KIM became very unsympathetic with my views on Zionism, you see at that period of course, you remember, it started, you know, the ?illegal immigration to Palestine, you know my attitude there, there was the confusion, if you like, here my enthusiasm for the war, for this country, and the attitude of Britain to the refugees and so on, there I had to constantly tell myself, but I mean I don't know what I thought, but I mean I was -".

M. "Well it was a conflict with the British Government, and also a conflict with KIM".

S. "No, I don't think it was a conflict with KIM, KIM didn't exist in my consciousness at all, but he was about, but he did not confide in me any more, quite on the contrary, he became very sort of, you know, antagonist".

M. "You did tell me that BURGESS, was living with KIM and EILEEN".

S. "Yes".

M. "The three of them".

S. "Yes. And, of course I met ?-----?, who talked about BURGESS, I met BURGESS, KIM introduced him and brought him into my whirlwind, you see, much before that. I thought he was very brilliant, but no good

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S. cont. "as I always call him, I never had any view on Guy, he was always terribly drunk and very dirty, and he was just such a man, and I used to say to KIM what do you find in GUY, I can't understand it, why this friendship. I realise that, by implication again, that KIM was working with him".

M. "This was long before the -".

S. (interrupting) "Oh long before, you see long before, but I never, never, there was never a hint".

M. "KIM never told you that".

S. "No".

M. "Merely implied it".

S. "Implied, implied never discussed. GUY was, GUY knew I didn't like him. And it reached a point when one day he got so drunk in my flat, and said something about Jews, or Palestine, I don't know whether it is confusing in his drunken state, and I said GUY I would be glad if you don't come here again, I completely, more or less turned him out and I never saw him again, except once, that I'll tell you, I didn't see him, but he rang me up, and that might be a pointer for you.

M. "That comes later in the story".

S. "That comes later".

M. "Well KIM and EILEEN moved out of Addison Road".

S. "I don't know, I can't remember exactly when they moved".

11.27. M. "No, but I mean they, did they - sorry I ought not to have interrupted you".

R.19.

S. No, no, not at all, because I -----"

M. "Did they move out of your life then".

S. "Oh no, EILEEN continued working, and worked remarkably well, and worked with me now on this war work, with the restaurant, which I also did. Another thing which I did, I started the eating in the shelters, and used all our girls to work there at night, to help the canteen in the shelters, and one day EILEEN, I'm coming

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S. cont. "to EILEEN to show you her personality. I was out of town somewhere, and there was a very heavy raid, and I rang to be sure that somebody would be on duty at one of the shelters, I rang EILEEN, and I said 'EILEEN I suppose you are on duty,' you know just to verify, when she said, you know, KIM is out, I have no car, and I don't know how I'll get there, so I said that's your business, but you must, you know, very strictly, and she went. And what happened was, that the next morning, you see, I get a message that she was badly hit by a shrapnel coming back, and now her arm is broken, you see, and I must produce an apology, because I said she must go, and Dr. HERBERT, who is VICTOR's doctor, who is the doctor of Marks and Spencers, who knew about this false sickness and everything else, went to see her, and checked up, and phrased-he looked at her good, she was -----and everything else, anyhow he phrased in an attractive manner that this was again self-inflicted, you know, just to punish me, because I gave her this instruction, and this is the pattern of EILEEN's life, she eventually committed suicide, as you know, she once burnt herself, set the whole house on fire. I mean she was obviously neurotic, and quite all ready to do it at least beyond our wildest dreams. Every time when she was disappointed with KIM she tried to do it, setting the house on fire, I mean ~~xxxxxxx~~ KIM has had hell, I mean if ever he had been tough with life, this was hell. Now where are we?."

M. "Well in the early days of the war I should say, they'd left Addison Road, you're still in touch with EILEEN."

S. "Oh yes, they moved to some place in Drayton Gardens."

M. "Drayton Gardens, that's right. And when you saw KIM it was presumably at your own flat in Carrington House."

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S. "Yes, you see I wouldn't go out anywhere, I didn't go anywhere, I mean, and then in the evenings, I mean, people fore-gathered. KIM was part of the set up, but very removed from me, to the extent, I will tell you, I mean, never, never discussed war work, you see, no idea of the thing he was doing, I don't even know where he worked, you see, I realised it was all this outfit, I mean, to me it was an outfit like any other. Occasionally he would stay the night, I had a spare room, which is not in my flat, I have a housekeeper who is on the same floor with a bathroom, and during the war my Housekeeper lived in my flat, and this was the spare room where lots of people stayed if they wanted to, and obviously KIM, it was so convenient. And one thing, to show you how restrained, how disinterested he was, and at the same time how little he trusted me, I'll tell what it was, that he stayed the night before D. day, in my place, and I remember he came home, I mean he came very late and rang the bell, because it's not connected, the rooms you see, but he rang the bell that night and he said 'Oh I'm so tired, and please a cup of coffee, and I have to be out very early tomorrow morning', and that was D. day, and the fact that he, who confided in me the innermost dangers of his own, never mentioned it, this shows you that, completely disciplined in his work, I mean I'm very grateful to him that he didn't mention it, but it is interesting isn't it?."

M. "Yes, his mind was in two compartments."

S. "Absolutely in two compartments, but also that he didn't trust me any more, because with this confidence that he had given me about his own dangers in life, the natural, sort of, I think, the psychological thing would have been to say, well you know tomorrow morning, wouldn't it?, I mean to a person whom he trusted so blindly before."

M. "Yes, yes I can understand that, I think that it is simply straight compartmentalization, if there is such a word, of one kind, even when he was working at his very big job, he worked on it as anybody else would, and he would obey all the

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M. cont. "rules as anybody else would, and one of the rules is not to talk."

S. "Yes (v. doubtfully), but I think that it is also implicated that he didn't trust me any more, as he had trusted me. He saw that I was not with him."

M. "Did he ever hark back to what he told you before the war?"

S. "Yes."

M. "He did?."

S. "Yes. (long pause). Was that during the war, or afterwards. Once, when there was such a terrific crisis that EILEEN again either attempted suicide or do something terrific, and he was in a state, the children were doing ----, really it was terrible to leave EILEEN in charge of those children, wasn't it? I did once say to KIM, and that's the only time that I did, I said 'KIM does EILEEN know about youx, does EILEEN know everything about you', and he said 'she had no idea' and he resented even that I asked, he said."

M. "Yes, he must have been frightened of you, you know, wasn't he?."

S. "I think afterwards--"

M. (interrupting) "that he was frightened of you."

S. "Oh, of course, of course afterwards, when the whole ideology parted so terrifically, he must have been frightened that I was going to-, frightened to death.

Well, then, the BURGESS story broke."

M. "Well, this is long, long before 1951."

S. "Yes, but I mean I told you I have nothing more to say about KIM and the war, except that, I mean I saw his many friends, and he was about."

M. "Then, of course, he went abroad."

S. "And then he went to America, didn't he?."

M. "Well, he went to America, yes, in about '49 I suppose, he had a series in Turkey before, do you remember?."

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- S. "Yes, yes. Well, on and off we saw each other, but there was never, never a remark or a talk, never and the whole -"
- M. (interrupting) "You say that you asked him this question, did EILEEN know anything about -".
- S. (interrupting) "Does EILEEN."
- M. "Does EILEEN know all about you, was that during the war or after the war?."
- S. "Oh, after the war, because during the war, first of all EILEEN was better during the war, you see, he was here, she was here, she was working, you see, after the war. Oh, EILEEN left me and didn't work, when they went to Turkey."
- M. "She stayed on?"
- S. "Oh yes, she stayed on with me for a long time."
- M. "Even with the children."
- S. "Oh yes, she stayed on and worked, you see, she was doing war work, she had children in between, there was the wedding, When were they married?."
- M. "In '46."
- S. "Very soon after the war."
- M. "About a year after the war.".
- S. "Yes, I remember that EILEEN expected her whatever-her next baby, and went to the - what do you call it, marriage -"
- M. "Registrar."
- S. "Registrar, yes."
- M. "You were there yourself."
- S. "Oh yes, definitely, they had lunch at my place afterwards and so on, who else was there, FRANK BIRCH was there, and I think that's the lot. Oh yes, EILEEN worked, I mean I could check up just how long it was EILEEN worked, yes it's right."
- M. "Quite a little while."
- S. "With interruptions. Well then they went to Turkey, even then probably, after they came back from Turkey, I saw them again, and then they went to America, then the BURGESS story broke, and then KIM came back, and I've seen him once. This is what I want to say, for all it was only once, after the

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- S. cont. "BURGESS case, and I'm trying to think where I saw him, was it in his flat, or was it in his mother's, that I can't remember. There was KIM, not at work and I'm not at work, and he just looked at me pathetically, didn't say a word."
- M. "Seeing that it was then talked about."
- S. "Absolutely, when I didn't. Now, you'll ask me why I personally haven't come out with it, you see I've put it so in my sub-conscious that, I mean I just, yes, oh, when the BURGESS story broke, NEIL FURSE-going back now, a cousin of EILEEN's, came to me and said I am going to wherever I'm going, I don't know, I'm going to say something about what I know about BURGESS. I'm going to tell them how friendly he was with KIM, are you going to say anything, so I said I'm not saying anything, I don't know anything. And I think he did, yes he told me that he went and he said all this."
- M. "I might have known him, but -----right."
- S. "Yes, I'm sure it is, yes I'm sure of that. You see I still didn't want to discuss it, and I didn't ask what have you got to report, or what have you, I said KIM if he is I don't know it. And I don't think I ever asked him what he reported, or what -"
- M. "Or what he intended to report."
- S. "Or what he intended -"
- M. "That KIM and GUY were friends."
- S. "Possibly, probably, I think that was even before."
- M. "I think you may well be right, a lot of water has passed since those days, but I don't remember it."
- S. "Well now, I have to explain to you why I came out with it. You see, at that period, when was that 12 years ago?"
- M. "'51."
- S. "11 years ago, then I felt well, they've got-the Americans have got their intelligence, the British have their intelligence, what have I got with it, I mean it's not my business, you see I have nothing to do with<sup>it</sup> particularly, v



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S. cont. "see what I think, this is my own thoughts, you see I have this habit as what I have told you, but I thought why should I get into this thing, I mean here are these two big countries, and I mean there are enough people working aren't there, and it's not my job and I don't want to ?see KIM ?, and after all these were his youthful confidences to me, he is still the ?-----?, you know, of this older woman, and I'm not going to do it, play a part in this, and I don't want to do it.

Well, since then 11 years have passed, and the world is very very - quite different, and for the last 3 or 4 years I began to think whether this isn't so terrible, I mean what Russia is doing, and the bomb and the tests, and the whole thing, I mean now I began to think it absolutely necessary that every human being who can to put the ?pebble? to stop this, in theory when it's possible to do it, and I believe every day more and more strongly about the whole thing you see, and - and the things really, I mean the whole behaviour, the tests and the bombs, the horror and the awfulness of it all, and the danger of trying. And, so already several years I have contemplated that I really must come out with it, that somebody must ?watch?, because now I am convinced that there is a centre of professional spies - qualified - around KIM, I mean this is again more intuitively ---"

M. (interrupting) "I was going to say, I mean as far as KIM's present position is concerned, do you know what he's doing, you've no real evidence that he's still involved".

S. "No I have no evidence whatsoever, none at all, except - (long pause) - the knowledge of his personality, you see, of his character, and now of course you see why I've come out completely with this, that now Israel has quarrelled you see, we're coming to that, I would - I had even forgotten about KIM's business, you know, I mean it isn't an active state that is in my mind, but since last year, you see, I

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S. cont. "have read of one or two articles of KIM's, you know, that he's writing".

M. "-----?"

S. "Well, there was one about last Sunday".

M. "No, I don't know".

S. "Or the Sunday before last".

M. "Nearly all the papers know that he, well his article was signed".

S. "Oh yes".

M. "He doesn't give a lot in there, does he ?".

S. "Well, I think he obviously is now working for the Arab cause, put it like that ---"

M. "You mean that his articles suggest that".

S. "Well, I mean obviously, there was - You haven't seen - that was not this Sunday, the Sunday before last - was a terrific article, a sort of - the glorification of NASSER".

M. "Oh".

S. "You didn't see it".

M. "You've no doubt that it was ? KIM ?

S. "And so when I met VICTOR, you see, in Israel, and with this situation of Israel surrounded by seven Arab countries, and the danger of that little country and so on, I felt England and America can look after themselves, you know they're strong enough and big enough, and everything else, and I mean I can't sort of - but here is this little spot of - on earth, in such a vulnerable situation, and here sits KIM, you see, pro-Arab, you see, and so I pieced the two things together, what does it mean Pro-Arab that KIM is obviously pro-Arab, pro-Russian, you know, and everything else, and there is the situation, and that's when I saw VICTOR ?as my-keeping? VICTOR through KIM, you see, I suddenly sort of tied the whole thing and impulsively, I must say impulsively that night, because you know, this atmosphere of danger there, all the money going to the army, the struggle that is going on there, I said to VICTOR, I've

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S. cont. "got to talk to you really privately, we talked about the past, you know, and I said for quite a long time I've - No, incidentally he was a very easy man to talk ?over there? I really feel now I ----"

M. (interrupting) "But now it's all out, now it's ?-----?"

S. "You know I still have a conflict".

M. (interrupting) "Supposing we'd known about this, supposing we'd come to you in 1951".

S. "Ah, if you had come to me".

M. "I wished we'd known, we didn't know".

S. "You see, if you had come".

M. "Had we known we certainly would have come".

S. "Look, if you had come to me, if I had been directly approached, and I could have really thrown a light I certainly would have come out. But, you see, voluntary-making this effort was too much for me, can you follow that ?".

M. "Yes I think I can, of course the tragedy was that you didn't tell us at the time, in '38 and '39".

S. "Ah then -----".

M. speaking at the same time "----- but in '51, well"

S. "Then I wouldn't have given KIM away for anything".

M. "No".

S. "No, then I wouldn't have said it, quite definitely, because as I tell you, then my mind wasn't clear at all - my own mind, you see, during the Munich year, I mean, one felt so rebellious and so horrified, I mean what was happening, and - and CHAMBERLAIN and the whole thing, I mean one was in such a state of flux and unclarity, I certainly wouldn't have said it then".

11.47. M. "What about EILEEN, did she know do you think ?"

R.23. S. "No".

M. "You're sure of that".

S. "I'm quite, quite - well".

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M. "Well, how did she take - I mean after '51, KIM lost his job, what did she think about that, she didn't talk about that".

S. "She didn't talk to me, I didn't talk to her, you see I was so afraid to be then, you know, in anyway tied up, and then she never said a word, she never said a word to me, in '51 <sup>?we'd</sup> it might have been better if she had a little ?talk?, I don't know. But, oh EILEEN, you see, I mean I was afraid of EILEEN anyhow, afterwards, because - I haven't told you that - at periods even before they went to Turkey, he was away quite a bit wasn't he ?".

M. "Yes, he used to go on trips".

S. "KIM used to go on trips, EILEEN lived somewhere in the country with the children, and when she was in town she often stayed with me, that was already Carrington House. Well, one night she stayed, and I heard a terrific scream, she fainted and fell out of the - er - fell from her bed or whatever it was, she continued playing these sort of attacks - with me, you know these hysterics - hysterical attitude, to create sympathy, or repent, or something like that. Then there was a period when the telephone would ring in my house, about ten times in the night, and of course I got terribly - - - - - and that was the real strength to EILEEN, so of course I was, you know, I tried to retract as much as I possibly could from her, she wasn't working any more, she had had all three children and so forth".

M. "Well, she was being treated by then wasn't she, or was that long before time".

S. "When she worked she wasn't treated the whole time, I mean they couldn't do anything, you have no idea how bad, I think it was in Turkey where she attended the hospital twice".

M. "Perhaps you're right".

S. "Oh yes, she did the most terrible, grim things, I mean she was really a poor, poor thing, I mean she wasn't responsible, I mean it was completely a disease".

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M. "Yea. How did the parting with KIM affect her, did you see her after that by any chance."

S. "I didn't know that he did leave her."

M. "Well, KIM did leave."

S. "Did he leave her."

M. "Yes."

S. "Oh that I didn't know, you see I completely disappeared after the BURGESS case, I tried to keep away as much as I possibly could, and I am sure that KIM tried."

M. "To keep away from you."

S. "Oh yes, obviously, he never called, he never saw me-I saw him once."

M. "Yes, well they did carry on living together in a sort of fashion for a little while until about '53, but he left before she committed suicide."

S. "I didn't know that this had happened at all, that he'd gone, ?in fact I'd heard that he was living with her?, I heard that she had committed suicide through NEIL FURSE, you see it was from him about KIM that I heard, how the children are, you know, ?with him?."

M. "He was very bitter about it wasn't he, he went to visit the whole family about the business."

S. "Oh frightfully, although he liked KIM very much, you couldn't help liking him, did you like -".

M. "I liked him very much, but I-I mean I knew nothing of his private life at all, all my knowledge derives, are to do with the department, but I knew him -"

S. (interrupting) "And you liked him?"

M. "I liked him very much."

S. "The people, one of the most popular people I suppose in your whole -"

M. (interrupting) "Got a very fine brain indeed."

S. "Oh, terrific"

M. "-----examination point."

S. (at the same time) "Absolutely terrific. So there it is."

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R. 24

S. cont. "Now BURGESS I never saw again."

M. "Well, I wonder if we could go back on his friends."

S. "No, I want just to mention this about BURGESS before I forget. BURGESS completely disappeared and, you know he just might have died, but one day in my office, after all these years that I hadn't heard from him, I think that is important, that in the entire human race, this happened, I can't tell you, he rang me up, to my amazement, and I said what are you doing now GUY, and he said- er - wasn't he with HECTOR McNEIL, that's right, and he told me what he was doing and he said, I'm ringing you because a great friend of mine has applied for a job in a firm called GESTETNER, and SIGMUND GESTETNER do you know of him?".

M. "No, but I have heard of him."

S. "You don't know him, well I mean he is the head of GESTETNER, he's the most wonderful man, unfortunately he has died, because he was quite an exceptional, wonderful person, and was a great friend of mine at the time you've said, because during the war, GESTETNER's wife came back to England from America, and they lived in Berkeley Square, you know it was --- my very close associate ~~xx~~ was always there, he (GUY) said well you are so friendly with GESTETNER, will you put the word in for this man, an engineer or something like that, he's an excellent man, I very strongly recommend him, and so I said I don't discuss ?candidates? with them, and if he's an excellent man, you know I was very cautious, if he's such an excellent man, I mean -".

M. (interrupting) "He'd get the job anyway."

S. "He'd get the job anyway, and I never mentioned it to GESTETNER, I never followed up if he was engaged or if he wasn't."

M. "Did GUY mention the name."

S. "I forget."

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M. "If I can discover the name, would you be able to remember it. I don't know how I would do it."

During the time M. was speaking it was possible that S. murmured "No."

M. (drowned by S's cough)-----in this work was there anything secret in the ?department, I mean on GUY's part, do you think that it had anything to do with his secret work?"

S. made no audible reply to this question.

M. "Well, first of all being-um-GUY was with HECTOR McNEIL, well you know in fact that -----, have you any idea of the date it was after -"

S. "It was after, let me tell, it must have been, let me see, about '49".

M. "No, it must have been earlier than that, I can check when he left HECTOR MCNEIL, I'm not sure, it was after the war, but I can't ~~xxx~~ really say when, but I can check on that.

But had you any reason to think what an extraordinary thing to ring you up at all, wasn't it?"

S. "I did, I thought this was extraordinary, why should he suddenly ring me up, I did. And again, you see, because of my own, sort of, make-up, not wanting to pry into anything, and yet having half a thought, whom do they want to plant there now, this thought, this passed through my mind, again I pushed it aside and didn't do anything. Didn't even ask of them if he has applied."

M. "Did GUY know that you knew."

S. (after a longish pause). "Now thinking back this close friendship of KIM and GUY, I think he must have known."

M. "He never said anything?"

S. "Never, never, never, never never. But I think that since I threw him out he regarded me as a friend."

M. "Yes. I know it's very difficult to ~~ask~~<sup>answer</sup> this sort of question, but you did have the feeling that GUY knew that KIM had told you."

S. "Yes, yes."

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M. "But he never actually said so."

S. "Never."

M. (after a pause) "Did KIM ask you to do anything specific."

S. "No, he said, at this famous conversation, he said why don't you help me."

M. "Did you understand what he meant by that."

S. "Oh yes."

M. "-----"

S. "Yes."

M. ?"When he sat down?"

S. "Yes."

M. "He never explained that this is the Communist apparatus or -"

S. "That's right."

M. "Or that he means himself and GUY."

S. "No, I think the cause."

M. "But he didn't say how you could do it."

S. "No, no because I immediately said, how you're mad, what am I to do, I of all people, you know, and so on, and this is the last thing I would do, and so forth, no, no."

M. "Did he ever give you any, this is what I really want to know, -----"

S. "Never I assure you -".

M. (interrupting) "Did he never give you any idea of through whom he worked."

S. "Ah well, now we're coming."

M. "Who his contacts were in France."

S. "Now, you see, about KIM is all 100%, that I believe, and intuitively now, I mean I know that he did up to this blitz period, you see, until Dunkirk."

M. "Yes."

S. "I know he worked, after Dunkirk it was understood and I don't know anything."

M. "On the other hand you did ask this question after Dunkirk, does EILEEN know the full story."

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S. "Yes, and he said no."

M. "But could that answer no have applied only to the --"

S. (interrupting) "To the past or to the present, I don't know."

M. "You don't know."

S. "I don't know. But about KIM if you ask me, he professed it twice, you know, what I believe and know I can't divide, but if I had to say to you what I believe, I believe that he is still working."

M. "Yes. But the percentage was 100% until Dunkirk."

S. "Yes, after that it's 75% deduction. You know why, because I think, and here that quality comes in, you know, I must-the -----was doing well, undoubtedly if I tell you that human nature is ?split into?, not feared to be, but I mean it's like a tool with the dentist, you know, on having helped with the job then still doing it, worked so many years, you know, my knowledge and reaction to human beings is partially in picture, partially in training, partially in the senses, but by and large it works. I would have thought that if KIM had been disillusioned, changed his mind, changed his views, which is only natural and quite fine and sensible, because of developments, it would have been the natural reaction for KIM to tell me, 'look I'm through with it', because if you have confided such a terrific secret to a person, and you are now clear for a bit, first of all you would want to put yourself safe and right, wouldn't you think that is logical?."

M. "Yes I do."

S. "Especially when I put the question to him, 'Does EILEEN know?', he should have said, 'well there's nothing to know, what I did before the war, you know, is one thing, I'm right out of it, there's nothing to know', and so forth, that would have seemed the natural reaction for the person who has completely changed, wouldn't you think so?."

M. "Oh I entirely agree with you, entirely agree, and even if he didn't say anything you would still have felt it."

S. (interrupting) "No, he would have implied, well this is the past there's nothing now or something like that, even for his own



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S. cont. "security."

M. "Yes."

S. "Wouldn't you agree with that."

M. "Entirely agree, yes, I'm sure you would have known."

S. "I mean that would have been the natural thing to do."

M. "Yes. Why do you think he did confide in you, do you really think it was because he thought you could help, or do you think it was something that was uncontrollable, he just wanted to get rid of it, it can't be help could it, or if he felt you could help I can't understand why he didn't suggest as to how you could have helped him."

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R.26

S. "Ah, there he had no chance, you see I was so vehement in reactions of help. Why his, no, first of all, why he thought I could have helped, I mean that's your first thing, because he had confidence in me, because he had this admiration for me, because by and large probably he thought I was an efficient, energetic person, with many contacts. I mean I think that's normal."

M. "Had he got K~~E~~RENSKY in his mind do you think?."

S. "Oh no, he hated K~~E~~RENSKY."

M. "He knew that it was inconceivable -"

S. (interrupting) "Oh no, no, that was the stumbling block as far as this was concerned, no, no, he couldn't bear his name, no, no."

M. "But what exactly he was asking you to do was to work against, I mean if you worked for him, it would have been against what K~~E~~RENSKY was trying to do, wouldn't it."

S. "I think he saw, at that period, in my attitude a person who was half sympathetic to his own ideas, because I was. You see, it's no good my saying, at that period, you see, whilst actively I wouldn't have helped, and certainly not in -in part, you know,

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S. cont. "or any - "

M. (interrupting) "But your sympathies were there."

S. "I think my sympathies were definitely there, quite definitely. I mean, you know, I mean the methods of the Communists are abhorrent to me, and have always been. At that period you see, I was myself in a great quandary, I mean the way the world worked, what was the use of the future and so forth, I mean there was no accident attached to it at all."

M. "Can I come back for an instant to when I did half ask, have you any idea at all how KIM worked, I mean through whom he worked, I mean if you've any thoughts on that."

S. "Now, now I'm coming -"

M. (interrupting) "Now this is the part, of course, that I want to know, and as far as KIM is concerned, what you told me -"

S. (interrupting) "I think, and there I will mention a name, you see now we're coming to my 50% knowledge. Did you know TOMMY HARRIS?."

M. (whispered) "I didn't".

S. "This is, I think, his contact's point, or was."

M. "When did KIM get a note of him."

S. "Oh, before the war."

M. "Long before the war."

S. "I can't remember, but I know that the HARRIS's seemed quite- Ooh I'm wrong, '37 that I remember was before the war, I can't remember for sure, but you could check up on this, because when I knew, when first the HARRIS's came into my life through KIM, they lived in Chesterfield Gardens, or whatever this place is called, off Curzon Street, you know TOMMY's father was, oh and TOMMY too, a-a-you know him?."

M. "Well, I say that I don't know him, because I didn't know TOMMY awfully well, but they were art dealers weren't they?."

S. "Yes, art dealers, they had this enormous house in Chesterfield-whatever it is, you know where it is."

M. "Yes, I know off Curzon Street."

S. "Yes called Chesterfield House, they had

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- S. cont. "this enormous house there as an art gallery, and the old man lived there, whether the HARRIS's lived there I don't know, because later on I remember them in a lovely house somewhere in Kensington, very wealthy, very sort of, you know, ?symparisists??"
- M. "And spending a lot of time in Spain, of course."
- S. "Spending a lot of time in Spain, with a wife called HILDA, you don't know his wife, she's English, and TOMMY is half Spanish?."
- M. "Yes, I think he was Spanish, ?without a doubt??"
- S. "And then, without asking, you see, I made up my mind and probably understood, that TOMMY was sort of working with KIM, but I have never been told."
- M. "TOMMY was part of your circle?."
- S. "Through KIM."
- M. "But he used to visit?."
- S. "Oh yes, oh yes. TOMMY used to visit me with KIM, and I went to them quite often, she was a wonderful cook, and the whole thing was very ?as it is since then?."
- M. "Why do you think there was this link up between them, I mean on the, the secret side."
- S. "Well I-I, you know, why I don't know, I always understood, that's why I say 50%, you see I have no axe to cut on, none at all, except the -".
- M. (interrupting) "Do you associate TOMMY with KIM rather than with GUY?."
- S. "Yes."
- M. "You do."
- S. "I don't even remember GUY in that picture, were they friends?."
- M. "I don't know how close, but they certainly knew each other."
- S. "Oh well they must have, because it was all one band of friends."

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M. "Yes."

S. "You know how, sort of, people meet and go together."

M. "Well, can I ask you that question of TOMMY that I asked you of GUY, do you think that TOMMY was aware that KIM had confided in you."

S. "No, no, that I am -"

M. (interrupting) "You're sure."

S. "I have never had any indication, I mean, you know, with TOMMY it-it wasn't such a close friendship, it was more a social contact and a pleasant sort of, you know, ?pleasure?"

M. "Yes, but with GUY you're pretty sure."

S. "Oh yes, GUY I think, GUY had a ----- and somebody, you know who was in it."

M. "However, to get back to my original question, if KIM was consciously working for the Russians before the war, and I think he was, presumably he must have had some contact, higher up."

S. "Don't know, I told you, not a soul he never brought in anybody on that side which gave the impression that they were really the people. I always had in mind, without asking, that TOMMY was something to do with it, without any evidence at all, and -"

M. (interrupting) "You know that GUY wasn't ?working for -----?  
KIM must have know that GUY was a homosexual."

S. "Oh, of course."

M. "What about the rest of them, what about KIM?"

S. "What about KIM, it could well be, it could well be."

M. "What about TOMMY."

S. "It could well be, it could well be, I think, you see it was a sort of mixture of everything with that. I think that, first of all, to divide homosexuality, you know, completely, and say he is a man of complete homosexual passion and everything else, is more than you or I can do."

M. "Yes. And of course to separate the secrecy which appears with each is very difficult."

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S. "It is very difficult. Even GUY, you know, for a long time I-I didn't suspect, or it didn't enter my mind, but with GUY I had evidence, because I remember there was an air raid, and SIGMUND GESTETNER was an air raid warden, and I remember one night he told me he went into a bombed house or something, or -----, anyhow he discovered GUY, after I ---- in, because he came back and said 'nice friends you have', you know, and he told me about GUY. So that from then onwards I knew, but I, you know, again I am so literal sort of, not interested or aware or conscious whether a person is or is not a homosexual that I don't rack my mind to try to analyse unless it's so obvious that, I mean, it screams."

M. "Can I go back to TOMMY again."

S. "Yes."

M. "He was-when I asked the question, through whom did you think that KIM might have been working, your mind leapt to TOMMY."

S. "Oh yes, you see-"

M. (interrupting) "He is the one above the others."

S. "I, you see, now in one's dream world or in one's moment of thought, how I visualise the picture then TOMMY who ~~is~~ is so obviously not obvious, you see, that set up, this rich man, this ----- picture collector-".

M. (interrupting) "Doesn't quite fit."

S. "What?"

M. "He doesn't quite fit you mean into that -"

S. (interrupting) "On the con-, -er-no, you see, he is such a wonderful person to work through KIM, you know, he's so not obvious."

M. "Yes, unlikely."

S. "So unlikely, that's the whole point."

M. "It is no more than that."

S. "No, not more, I have no more, but as I say, in my

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- S. cont. "imagination I visualise that this is, here is TOMMY sitting in Majorca, that's where they live, and KIM where-where he is, and you know I think that these points are very good."
- M. "So in much more in the context of today than in the context of the past."
- S. "Oh yes".
- M. "Which you feel-"
- S. (interrupting) "No, I ?feel? it of the past too, you see I didn't follow -"
- M. (interrupting) "No, but I mean it wouldn't have occurred to you in the past, it's only occurred to you-" (pause)
- S. "No, it occurred to me that TOMMY had something to do with it, occurred without evidence, and now it occurs to me that it's quite - you see I'm not even a detective novel reader, ?they are for? who are good at piecing things together, you know because they read these novels, apart from the television detective story or something, I am very bad at these detective stories. But this is how I visualise it, put it like that."
- M. "You said there were some friends, or members of KIM's circle, about whom you wouldn't want to talk."
- S. "No, I'm not going to mention any names, because I-this is simply because I ~~xxxxxxx~~ met them through KIM, and I mean that is not a fair bid for-for discussion, because really one shouldn't carry this on until, I don't know what, I mean I can bring you into it, and VICTOR, and anybody else."
- M. "Yes, yes. But the two people that you said that you were prepared to talk about were, presumably, GUY and -"
- S. (interrupting) "GUY and TOMMY".
- M. "And TOMMY".
- S. "Not GUY, KIM and TOMMY, I mean I've nothing to add to ~~guy~~ GUY".
- M. "No, that's known already".

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S. (laughing) "It's all right as far as that is concerned, you know more than I do, but I mean KIM and TOMMY - as I say, KIM 100%, TOMMY 50%. My semi-evidence about TOMMY, and I hope that that is clearly my feelings that's all, whether this material is any good for you, it's very scanty I realise, it's off my chest, and as far as my present thoughts are concerned, to let more light in-to bring into it. And if you have the apparatus and the possibility to watch the situation, you see, what I believe or think, why ?it kept me off telling you people this?, it's simply for your watching eye itself."

M. "Yes, yes, I mean what you're concerned about is that it's still going on."

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S. "Yes, yes."

M. "Well I understand that. Well I won't tell you as you have certainly -" (pause)

S. ""?Still? help."

M. "Help, no I wouldn't want to get ?rid of? that, but I won't tell you that I didn't myself believe that KIM was involved, I did, but I think-well I believe that KIM was being second in certain respects-----, I am sure that he was, but of course what I still don't know, and what I would still like to discover, is the ramifications through which he worked, because if you are a spy you've got to have a great deal of recording apparatus before you can ?launch? out as a spy--- ----and that is the side I'd like -".

S. (interrupting) "What I'd like you to check up, if you have the means and the possibilities, to find out this man who might perhaps have been engaged at GESTETNERS."

M. "Well I think I can probably, if they'd know -----"

S. "Let me just think of the date of - er - where I was, I know that in '48 I was sent to America by

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S. cont. "my firm. I'm trying to-only dates back from the office I worked from, I remember that when I came back I was moved to another office, and it was in that office that it happened, you see, because I see the picture of myself and this call, and that was after I think, definitely after, I came back from America I moved from the first floor to the third, or somewhere upstairs, so it must have been after '48."

M. "After '48, yes I think he was in London, yes he would still have been with HECTOR McNEIL, yes I think-but that I can check on."

S. "That you can check, and you can check who, about that year, was engaged at GESTETNERS, and it was some engineer or something like that, that he recommended. You know one thought occurs to me (pause) must have it straight before I tell you. Once GESTETNER said to me-well obviously when the BURGESS story broke, I mean, everybody talked about it-and GESTETNER said 'after ?your interest? how terrible you must feel it was'. (pause) Did I tell him then that I had this telephone, I have a feeling -".

M. (interrupting)"this is Mr. GESTETNER, yes?"

S. "I have a feeling that I told him that BURGESS rang me up about this, yes I have a strong feeling that GESTETNER said 'yes, he knew'."

M. "That he knew that somebody had been recommended by him."

S. "Yes, I know that I didn't ask GESTETNER to give anybody, or anything like that, you see I said quite definitely, look if he's a good man don't bring me in ---on merit, I don't want to ?give? a message, but I don't want to, that I definitely said. I wouldn't take a recommendation from GUY, what I thought of him was enough to doom the man and I'm not going to do it. I was always of a very poor opinion of GUY, you know his very serious--although

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S. cont. "a very, very brilliant man, but this terrible you know, disorganised, undisciplined and everything else."

M. "And blind of course to -----"

S. "And such a habit that he has got. Well I think that is the whole story."

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M. "Well, can I throw out a few names, and if you don't want to talk-I think probably you won't know any of them."

S. "Well, just say."

M. "Well one of KIM's quite close friends, I think, from his University days, was a man named MICHAEL STEWART, did you know MICHAEL STEWART."

S. (murmured) "yes".

M. "Did he seem to have -"

S. (interrupting) "No."

M. (continuing) "professional? qualities."

S. "None at all, none at all, oh but there were legions of them."

M. "Yes I know."

S. "I would have met simply and talked to."

M. "You would never have thought that he would have ?served? in any way."

S. "I can't even visualise him, I'm -----  
-----I don't even know was a great friend. Does he come into the picture, no I mean -"

M. (interrupting) "I only know him as a-quite a close friend, and a long standing friend of KIM's."

S. "What was he doing, this MICHAEL STEWART?."

M. "Well he was, before the war he was in the news ?counter? of some paper, I think, as a pictorial -----."

S. "Oh in -----".

M. "Yes."

S. "Yes, yes, that's perfectly correct, I mean he -"

M. (interrupting) "He went into the Ministry of Information during the war."

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- S. "No, you see, some names are much more familiar to me, and I mean, some people, but it would be unfair and unjust and quite unjustifiable to even mention names of people just because one had a contact."
- M. "Can I mention ANTHONY BLUNT?"
- S. "Yes, oh yes, I have known him very well (pause) personally, you see this is why - I - I don't want to in any way, and I must underline this, I mean in fairness, you know ones best -"
- M. (interrupting "I know that -". Both S. & M. spoke together.
- S. "No, I can't tell you anything about him, except that he was a great friend."
- M. "Yes, but you don't believe that he was involved."
- S. "Well look, my believe-er-absolutely-er-have no reason to be, and this is, I mean -".
- M (interrupting) "Well would you draw a distinction between the friendship between KIM and TOMMY HARRIS, and between KIM and ANTHONY."
- S. (After a pause, and with a sigh) "No I can't draw a distinction because he was a very close friend, ?or he's ---- been?, but the point is that I really, I mean I knew him, he's been to my house and so on, but I -I want to see myself in the world, you see as far as the HARRIS's are concerned I was friendly with them, you know, home to home, put it like that. The people whom KIM, and were brought by KIM to my house, apart from GUY and TOMMY, I didn't know very well, you know, came in and had a drink, walked out, you know what life was like during the raids, and during the whole thing."
- M. "Yes, yes, in fact TOMMY, as you said, is really the fact of the unlikeliness rather than the likeliness."
- S. "That's the point, you see this is-it struck me as the most extraordinary combination, I mean, TOMMY didn't fit into KIM's - er - atmosphere completely. ANTHONY BLUNT, I mean, *no really was an intellectual such?* intellectually and so forth, I mean all these things fitted in, but TOMMY was something, was quite a different matter,

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S. cont. "and I myself-you know- a nice sort of fellow, but I mean I wasn't particularly interested in his mind or in --- er- it doesn't fit in, I had to assume that he had a part to play."

M. "That there must be some other side of his life which attracted KIM."

S. "Yes, yes, that was it, because it was such a very close friendship. Was-was TOMMY also in your outfit?"

M. "Yes he was."

S. "He was, yes."

M. "Well, can we go back to LITZI, we've rather forgotten LITZI."

S. "Oh, LITZI, yes."

M. sighed.

S. "LITZI maintained a contact with me after KIM left her, and was living with EILEEN. As I told you I never cared for LITZI very much, no I didn't like her at all, I mean I didn't actually dislike her, but she didn't interest me and I didn't care for her, and I absolutely accepted her as a business partner of KIM's, without again ever discussing it with her, but absolutely feeling that she knows that I know. With LITZI I had a different contact, or knowledge about her life, because I had a German refugee housekeeper during the war, you know one of these very capable women who escaped and came to me through the Bloomsbury House, as a refugee, a very intelligent woman, and she, now I've got to get it straight myself, she had nothing to do with LITZI, but LITZI lived somewhere, either in the same house, or had a room with some relation of this Miss -----, I can trace that, because it's my -----, and I can carefully find out, if that doesn't help you, well I can -"

M. (interrupting) "Yes, and this, of course, was during the war, this was after KIM had left her -"

S. (interrupting) "KIM, yes, yes, so that is why I knew that LITZI

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Bella  
MAY 62, according  
to Flue's book,  
page 165.



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S. cont. "had a boy friend, you know where she was living and so forth, that I knew, her background."

M. "But she dropped out of your life after the war."

S. "No she didn't, she occasionally appeared, and she came to ask me whether she can help me in some war work, or Marks and Spencers, or something like that, and I know that I definitely rejected her, but she did come once-several times to see me."

M. "Did she have friends, I mean I'm going back to the 1930's now, when they were living together, did she have friends who were separate, as it were, to KIM's friends."

S. "I couldn't say, you see she interested me so little, I never took an interest in LITZI, I didn't like her. I can find more about LITZI's life and friends-" (pause)

M. "Please, if you're right in saying that they were partners they were professional partners, then it seems to me more likely that LITZI could be the means of contact with the Russian Intelligence Service rather than KIM, I mean she had her communist doctrines, she was an open Communist, there was never any doubt about that, and of course she was going backwards and forwards to Paris."

S. "Well, now you see this, of course, was always a thought, I understood that's why KIM didn't want to divorce her, didn't want to get divorced, that I am sure of."

M. "You don't think it was simply that had he divorced her, she would then have found it very difficult to go on living in the U.K."

S. "Yes."

M. "Rather than that she was necessary, still necessary to his ?-----?."

S. "Well, why should she have found it difficult to continue here, you see I even said to KIM, when I was rather apprehensive about poor EILEEN having all these children, not married and so forth, and from time to time

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S. cont. "I used to say, 'you know KIM I think it's very unfair, you know EILEEN and so on', and KIM used to say 'Well, you know, I can't leave her now, you know she's a foreigner', and this and that, but as again I didn't want to get involved, I didn't want all these possibilities, marriage, divorce and everything else, I thought to myself, well it's absurd because she has a British passport she could live here for years, as long as she wanted to, after all she was British."

M. "Yes, she became British when she married him."

S. "Exactly, and when he used to say, well at this moment I can't leave her, I thought that was rather absurd, but I didn't want to go too much into it, because again I didn't want to be involved."

M. "You don't know how they met, I mean I don't know how they met, they met in - in - "

S. (interrupting) "No, I don't remember."

M. (Continuing) "in Vienna, but you don't know how they came to know each other, I mean that in itself was a pretty extraordinary story."

S. "Is it?"

M. "Well, I mean KIM went to Austria when he came down from Cambridge in '33, I think it was, the end of '33, and in February '34 he married LITZI, just went on holiday, and only to Vienna."

S. "Well, I mean -"

M. "I suppose it's not so-"

S. "Normally speaking it happens-"

M. "Yes, I suppose it could do."

S. "Yes. No, no I -"

M. (interrupting) "But in point of fact, of course, that was the means by which LITZI was able to come to the U.K., I mean if she hadn't married KIM she couldn't -"

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S. (interrupting) "Couldn't have come, why not, at that period she could, '34."

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M. "Well if she could have got out."

S. "Ooh of course, Austria was then under-er-they were already of course, yes."

M. "Just about the time of DOLFUSS."

S. "Of course, it was already enslaved, I was sure that it was not yet. Of course. No, I always regarded, I mean not always, but when I got to know about KIM's activities, I regarded that this was a partnership. (pause)

I am sure that you must be under a strange impression, how I could have taken these things frivolously without, you know--"

M. "Well, I don't know that I am really, but it doesn't concern me --"

S. (interrupting) "No, no, no, but you know --"

M. (interrupting) "My object is to learn all I can about --"

S. (interrupting) Yes. No, I know because it seems to myself so, if you like, frivolous, because I mean again I wasn't impressed then the climate was so different, and then the whole situation was so completely and profoundly different."

M. "Did you ever hear of a woman called EDITH <sup>SUSCHITSKY</sup> ~~VASHINSKY~~?, her name was EDITH TUDOR HART."

S. "It rings a bell, but I don't know her. (pause) What nationality, English?"

M. "English, she was married to an Englishman, but she was Russian literally."

S. "No I mean it rings, you know, it doesn't sound absolutely 100% odd, nothing more. I could ask this Miss ?-----? to remember about LITZI's ~~fix~~ friends."

M. "Yes, I think she would be LITZI's friend rather than, I mean I think KIM would know her but--"

S. "What?"

M. "I think KIM knew her, but I would associate EDITH TUDOR HART with LITZI rather than with KIM."

S. "LITZI didn't make any secret that she knew I knew, it was always by implication. And the few times she came to see me for a job, for this for that, I can't remember, it was



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S. cont. "definitely for a job, could she help, you know and so forth, there was this complete, you know sous entendre that I know what she's doing."

M. "You said that K~~ER~~ENSKY didn't like KIM, was that just, sort of, superficial."

S. "Yes, quite superficial, in fact he was irritated about this young man who was hanging round and why-----".

M. "He would have recognised that."

S. "well, there was KIM, he looked well -----, and he resented any attention that was around me, put it like that. (pause.)

Obviously, intuitively I felt for it, I would never have told him about KIM, under no circumstances.

Well, anyhow, as I have told you, when? I came back to -----, I have never, never mentioned it, for a variety of reasons that I have given."

M. "I'm still, I can't explain the telegram at all--"

S. (interrupting) "No, the telegram."

M. (Continuing) "----because it does seem to me quite

extraordinary, I mean if KIM-for him to-I mean you see he didn't say I sent the telegram, the implication was, I mean, when you asked him about the telegram--"

S. "You know now that I am sort of, spoken about it, it upset me that telegram, when I said to him "you're mad", you know, not implicating that, but I mean what sort of person am I for this, I mean, so far removed, so absolutely--"

M. "Yes."

S. "It's possible that he didn't take this for granted."

M. "That he didn't accept your --" (pause).

S. "My, my rejection."

M. "Yes that's true. But even then it doesn't really explain the telegram, I mean why."

S. "I wish I could clearly remember what the telegram said I can't."

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- M. "And it wasn't signed by KIM, it wasn't signed at all."
- S. "No, no, no, it wasn't signed."
- M. "Yes, but supposing this was KIM at work, or supposing it was --"
- S. (interrupting) No, I --"
- M. (continuing) "a different apparatus at work, and they wouldn't expect you to answer the telegram, you didn't know from whom it was, did it give you precise details of where to go."
- S. "Yes, yes. It was a sort of suggestion to meet somewhere in Paris. (pause) And then a sort of rendezvous, put it like that. You know, perhaps a try out, that perhaps I've changed my mind and perhaps I'll turn up."
- M. "If they were seriously going to do that surely they would have given it to KIM again, for KIM to come and see you and talk to you about it again, why the-why Paris-why this ?use?!"
- S. "You know, I was, at that period, going very frequently to Paris, I tell you, I told you I went during the past year because of KÉRENSKY, well then they thought, well perhaps she changed her mind."
- M. "Yes, well I suppose that was a target for them, that is to say as a close-um-friend of KÉRENSKY, I suppose they would have been glad if you, but then you didn't guess that was what they were trying to do."
- S. "No, I don't think that KÉRENSKY had anything to do with it."
- M. "But the Russians would have been very interested in what KÉRENSKY was doing, I mean even though you may have felt that it was ineffectual, it was, but I'm sure the Russians would have had a feeling against it, to know exactly what he was doing, don't you think that was what -----like you?"
- S. "Maybe, maybe, you see I regarded KÉRENSKY as so ineffective in what he was doing that I never ascribed that my value to them could be via KÉRENSKY, because I knew he couldn't do anything, you see, that it never entered my mind that they were interested, although I had some terrific experiences with him, you know of assault, why I had this-er-one of



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S. cont. "the reasons why I had this, sort of, apartment in Paris, was so that we could be together, because we could never go out together, because either a man would spit in his face, or somebody would knock him, I mean there were all sorts of incidences of anti-KARENSKY-ites, whether they were anti-KARENSKY or pro-Bolshevik or what, there was such a mixture of different reasons as to why he should be assaulted. It never happened in London, and I wasn't nervous at all, but in Paris, where there were so many refugees, you know, and white and red Russians and what not, there were all the separate incidents where it was very unpleasant to go out together."

M. "Yes. (pause) You don't know of any, apart from the incidence of the release of this friend or nephew of a friend of yours in Spain, KIM never spoke to you of why he went to Spain, I mean whether he went on any particular mission or for any particular purpose."

S. "No."

M. "I mean he went to Spain before ever he confided in you, Didn't he?"

S. "Oh yes, he only confided in me when I challenged him, How can you be pro-FRANCO."

M. "But this was after he had accomplished this".

S. "Before."

M. "I mean, when you asked him, or mentioned this relative of a friend of yours, he said all right I can fix that, and as far as you know he did fix it, but at that stage he hadn't confessed to you at all, you didn't know then or did you?"

S. (after a pause) "There I might be muddled, whether I challenged him before, how can you be on FRANCO's side, and because knowing that he can help us, KIM, or whether it happened afterwards-I think it happened afterwards, because my great surprise was that he could do it. It must have

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12.40

S. cont. "happened afterwards."

M. "But when he did confide in you, did he give you any idea at all why he went to Spain."

S. "Well that was quite obvious, well I mean that was the obvious thing, this was a wonderful cover for him."

M. "In other words, he was reporting to the Russians on the FRANCO side, or what was going on on the FRANCO side."

S. "Obviously."

M. "He actually said that or--?"

S. (interrupting) "No, no, but I mean the whole thing was so clear, he said don't you-I mean I'm not pro-FRANCO, how can you-then he came out with this, and he said this is the way to work it, you see what he has done, and there I have learnt the mentality of a spy, that you always have to be on the side where it looks least likely, and you would be least suspected".

M. "Did you know that he was mixed up with the - er- what's it called, the Anglo-German Fellowship?"

S. "No, no, I didn't, that he wouldn't tell me, you see, because obviously you can imagine my feelings about the Germans, you see he wasn't 100% frank with me either about it when you come to think of it. You mean pro-German."

M. Yes, well this was after Spain, this was, oh I suppose it was '37, '38, after he came back from Spain, he then became a member of the Anglo-German Fellowship, which was a Nazi organisation."

S. "Again probably as a spy."

M. "That's why I asked you."

S. "No, that he obviously couldn't have mentioned to me, because you can imagine my feelings about Germany then, you see he could confide in me the

This is wrong  
P. joined the  
A-G-F in  
1936 - before  
he went to Spain

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S. cont. "Russian thing, because, as I said to you, then-at that period, my antagonism certainly was 100% pro-German, and not at all counter-Russian, so he could confide in me this, but he couldn't confide in me about his Anglo-German Association, could he?, without provoking--"

M. (interrupting) "Well, unless he told you that, of course, that he was doing it as a--"

S. (interrupting) "as a blind, no, no, that I had no ~~big~~ idea, that's why I'm saying to you that KIM, even as far as I am concerned, in the period when he had complete confidence in me, also had his compartments."

M. "Yes, yes. When he did confide in you, I remember you saying that he was terribly overwrought."

S. "Terrifically, he said he was in frightful difficulties."

M. "He didn't say why".

S. "No."

M. "Was that to gain your sympathy, or do you think it was genuine?"

S. "Oh I am sure it was genuine, I am sure it was genuine."

M. "You think that was the reason for his confiding in you, he had to tell somebody."

S. "Yes, yes he was terrifically overwrought. No but you see he confided in me that he was working as a blind, that he wasn't pro-FRANCO, that he confided, he didn't then tell me that it was-that he was working for the Russians. You see the first confidence that he made to me was that he was really anti-FRANCO, but working pro-FRANCO, fine, you see, that didn't even shock me."

M. "The indication being that he was doing it for money-----".

S. "Oh no, not at all, that he worked on the side of the Republicans, anti-FRANCO working for FRANCO."

M. "Yes, but not working against FRANCO, I mean even though his sympathies lay with the Republican side; he was nevertheless prepared to work for FRANCO, Why?"

S. "To help--"

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M. (interrupting) "That came later, the confession that he was helping the other side, or didn't it, did it come at the same time?"

S. No, No, the fact that he was working as a Russian spy came at THE conversation, indirectly--"

M. "When he was overwrought?"

S. "When he was overwrought."

M. "But previous to that?"

S. "Previous to that was that he was helping the Anti-FRANCO side by working-through working with FRANCO."

M. "I see, so you are drawing the distinction now between the Anti-FRANCO line and the Russians?"

S. "That's right"

M. "Yes."

S. "So you see, because after all the anti-FRANCO side was not Russian."

M. "Not obviously."

S. "Not obviously Russian"

M. "I see."

S. "Which, I mean, was a fact, very many of the- er - what was it called-Brigade?"

M. "International Brigade."

S. "International Brigade were not Communists, but they were working for the liberation of their freedom, and there I was completely, you see as one would be, anti-FRANCO."

M. "Yes. And then later?"

S. "Then later, he brought in the Russians."

M. "And he said in so many words, I am spying for the Russians?"

S. "Oh yes, oh yes, but the word ~~s~~pying-I don't know if he used the word spying."

M. "No, but there was no doubt at all that morning that--"

S. (interrupting) Oh definitely, quite definitely, and that is when he said to me, why don't you help us, you could

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S. cont. "be of great use."

M. "Well I think that must have been after he had returned from Spain."

S. "It was"

M. "Before he went off to -----, but after he'd finished with --".

S. (interrupting) "Oh yes, quite definitely, quite definitely."

M. "Well it must have been then about '37, possibly '38. You mentioned the abdication of the Prince of Wales, Edward the VIII, does that help you to--"

S. (interrupting) No, no that was when EILEEN--"

M. (interrupting) I know, in connection with EILEEN I know, but does it help you date the lunch?."

S. (after pause) "I think that's no connection".

M. "Which? The lunch?"

S. "The lunch. Must have been about '38. Of course it might have been in '39. What was he doing in '39."

M. "Well, he was still on the Times, well no, he had a period when he was working for an man named STAFFORD? TALBOT?, I'm not sure that was his name, but it was a magazine, a sort of trade paper."

S. "Oh yes, he did work there, yes."

M. "Connected with Germany, this trade paper, fostering trade between this country and Germany, but the same Publishing house also ran a magazine, trade magazine, which was fostering trade between England and Russia, Remember?."

S. "I remember that he worked for--"

M. (interrupting) "I think his name was STAFFORD TALBOT."

S. (after a pause) "I think the lunch must have been after Munich. It was after Munich, I am sure. That was the period when one felt one was in such a state, it was after Munich, because after Munich that was the greatest dishevelment of one's help to-when really one didn't know where one was going."

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- M. "Yes. By that time, you hadn't already met GUY had you?"
- S. "Oh yes, yes, I met GUY very soon after I met KIM. I mean GUY was brought and introduced as a close friend. Were they at school together-at University together?"
- M. "They were at University together, but they weren't at school together, GUY was at ?Eton."
- S. "And where was KIM?"
- M. "KIM was at <sup>Westminster</sup> ~~Manchester~~."
- S. "Oh GUY was very close, absolutely a sort of buddy, and very much under KIM's influence. But the reverse?, because KIM used to get mad with GUY, so did EILEEN, EILEEN had terrible rows with GUY."
- M. "Yes. And you are not sure about when you first met TOMMY?, whether it was in that period."
- S. "You mean pre-war or during the war."
- M. "Yes."
- S. "I think that I must have met TOMMY before the war. But I don't-I mean they used to have wonderful meals, after all during the war you couldn't have it, meals played a terrific part, because HILDA was a very good cook, and everybody was very epicurean then, Oh! it was before the war, of course it was before the war, and TOMMY was ----- they adored KIM, and TOMMY was very much under KIM's influence too, he told me that. They met me before the war"
- M. then asked if S. had heard about GORONWY REES. S. replied that she knew of him now, much more than before, because he was now writing a biography of SIMON MARKS, but she had only heard last week about these articles.
- M. "Well he-I don't think was very close to KIM, I have no reason to suppose that he was, but of course he did know GUY pretty well, he was one of GUY's buddies."
- S. "Was he?."

Lunch was then brought in, and they discussed the food and drink.

- M. "I don't think he was very interested in KIM, I don't

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M. cont. "I know but I don't think so."

S. "No, I don't think --"

M. (interrupting) "----you would know him".

S. "No, no, I only heard it last week."

S. and M. again commented on the food.

S. then went on to remark on REES' articles, and asked if he had brought in all the people he had met in GUY's circle.

M. agreed that this was so. S. criticised people who just brought in names for the sake of doing so, and repeated that that was the one thing she wouldn't do.

S. explained how she had visited America during the McCarthy period, and told M. about a victim of McCarthyism, a great explorer by the name of <sup>LATTIMORE</sup> LATIMER, she had met his wife and had heard all about what they had gone through during this period.

M. and S. then went on to discuss the type of information that should be given to Intelligence, S. stuck to her point that names shouldn't be bandied about without evidence. S. said that even after she had spoken to VICTOR she had hesitated about whether VICTOR should, or should not, get in touch with anybody, but now she felt quite confident in her mind that she had done right, but to bring in people of whom she was not sure would be wrong and absolutely unethical. M. said it was not a question of not being sure, but of knowing, if there was anything that she knew about anything, then he hoped she would tell him. S. assured M. that she would, because her aim now was, seeing what the world was like and what could happen, was to try and stop it. She had even offered to find out more about LITZI. M. said that there was nothing they could do about LITZI now, she was in East Germany, his only interest in LITZI lay in the past, because he thought LITZI was the link in the chain through which KIM worked, and obviously he was much more interested in the people around KIM, others who were doing the same thing that KIM was doing.

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S. "What can you do about KIM, I mean --"

M. "Well KIM has no access"

S. (Interrupting) "Does KIM never come to England?"

M. "Yes I think he does occasionally.-----I think he's married again"

S. "Yes, this I know, an American".

M. asked about KIM's children. S. didn't appear to know very much about how they were getting on. She said that the elder child JOSEPHINE FLORA was a her God-child, and she must be about 22 by now.

M. "One extraordinary thing is that during the whole of this conversation neither of us has mentioned DONALD McLEAN, whom I take it you've never met."

S. "Never met, no, no. He never appeared in that set-in our set as far as I know."

M. "No. But of course he was abroad a great deal of the time, and in any case I know when he was in England he wasn't a friend of KIM's."

S. "He wasn't a friend?".

M. "Well they knew each other, but I don't think they were--"

S. "Was he a great friend of BURGESS."

M. "Well, they were certainly close friends at Cambridge, after that-on the surface-no."

S. "What can you do about KIM, only in so far-I mean you have no possibility of watching him where he is?."

M. "No. The damage he can do now - he's not really in the ?light? to reveal secrets, a lot of English secrets, British secrets, because he had no access"

S. "Unless he has contacts here".

M. "Yes but--"

S. went on to say that her purpose was to stop KIM doing more damage, damage to Israel. M. said that he didn't know that KIM was doing that. M. said that S. had mentioned that KIM was pro-Arab.

S. "You believe me no doubt, he's so clever, he's so shrewd,



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S. cont. "you can't even pin him down that he built up NASSER, this is the extraordinary part, and there's even a derogatory remark about Russia and, I mean, at the same time showing the glory of Russia and the strength of Russia, this is extremely clever."

M. "Well, I don't know that there is anything we can do about it directly."

S. "Have you any access to TOMMY"

M. "Not as far as I know"

Both M. and S. spoke together.

S. "-----"They're very good friends, put it like that, for work or for communication. You see, if it is as I believe, that TOMMY is the focal point--"

M. (interrupting) "TOMMY can't be the brain, TOMMY had no brains. I mean of all the people that have been discussed, KIM was head and shoulders above them."

S. "Oh yes, I think that KIM is a master-mind. I mean the way he was absolved of everything when the story came out, is fantastic. I can't now remember all the investigation of history which took place, but he came out of it completely straight didn't he?".

M. "Yes. He lost his job".

S. "Yes, but then afterwards in the discussions in the House of Commons on all this, I mean he came out absolutely splendidly."

M. "Yes, yes, that's perfectly true. But of course not everything is said in the House of Commons."

S. "As far as the Press and the Public is concerned, I mean he came out completely white-washed."

M. "Yes, that's certainly true, but of course he did lose his job, and as far as the Russians are concerned, taking it that he was still working for them, he ceased to be of any great value, or at any rate of any value to them in the field in which he had been working."

S. "Yes, but it is remarkable, not a stain of history remains



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S. cont. "on him, I mean the whole fantastic thing because, I mean, after all as you said to me yourself, you have no doubt that he was -"

M. "I have no doubt--"

S. "Exactly, and yet look how clear the whole thing appears to the public. And you have no doubt again because it is not on~~x~~ deducement but on facts."

M. "Well not all that number of facts, no. I mean in that category they ~~Varied~~ varied very considerably, what we know, very considerably."

S. then spoke about her sister, who was a publisher and had ~~brought~~ brought Dr. ZKIVAGO over here. S. explained the difficulties her sister had experienced in getting the book published.

S. told M. the reason why she didn't want to be implicated in what she had just told him, was because she had been invited by the Russian Trade Unions to go to Moscow to advise them on their shops. She had been to talk to the Consul and she had told him that she would consider going, but not as their guests, because then she would be under an obligation to them. However, she was definitely toying with the idea of going, and this was why what she had told M. today shouldn't be known. M. thought it was quite possible that it was known already, that KIM would have told them. S. was very alarmed at this idea, and pronounced that her trip to Russia was now out for good, she had no intention of exposing herself. M. assured her that she would be in no physical danger. S. was very doubtful that this would be so, but she was very grateful to M. for having drawn her attention to the fact that KIM might have reported ~~the~~ conversation he had had with her to the Russians.

M. said that there were people in his service to whom he would have to report on their conversation, people who were in higher positions. S. assured M. that she did not mind his doing this, "I'm more concerned that you keep a vigilant eye

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on KIM, I think that's more important than my own personality, as long as officially in no way I am involved." M. gave her assurance on this point.

M. repeated his wish that S. had been approached in 1951.

S. "I mean ~~xxx~~ didn't you approach people who knew GUY and KIM?"

M. "Yes, but we didn't know about you."

S. "Well, I don't know really why you should have known. You see I can see that KIM could consider that I could be of interest to him because, exactly because it never dawned on you, or you've never heard of me."

S. commented on the decorations that KIM had received, he had a FRANCO medal and a British medal, which only went to show how clever he was.

S. once again repeated that she was so passionate about the tragic situation, Israel was part of her heart, it was part of her being, but even since last year, even since she had 'phoned VICTOR she thought the situation was deteriorating fast and furious.

S. spoke of her two grand-daughters, aged 15 and 13, who were her chief interest now. This led M. and S. to discuss the views of the youth of today on the world situation.

M. asked if S. had ever put the story she had just told him wholly out of her mind. S. said that she was not going to pretend she had lived with a terrible problem on her mind, it had occasionally passed through her head, but she had always been 100% positive that she wasn't going to open her mouth. M. asked her if she thought this was out of loyalty to KIM. S. admitted that her first reason was that she didn't want to be in any way involved, but her second conscious motive was that here was a young man, emotionally unstable, confessing and trying to do something, which perhaps today he wouldn't do. M. said he understood completely how she couldn't have spoken out in 1938, but he was less sure of why she hadn't come out with it at the beginning of the war. S. replied that she

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just couldn't, her son had just been called up. She really hadn't given it any thought, she realised that this was frivolous and wrong. She admitted that she might have spoken if she had been approached when the BURGESS case broke. M. said that it wouldn't have made all that difference then. S. said she did not mean about GUY, but about KIM. M. said that as far as KIM was concerned, he lost his job and that was the main thing and put him out of immediate harm's way. M. said he was not saying that "there are not other things he can be doing, and can have been doing since."

S. mentioned that KIM's father had been in Prison. M. knew this, and said that he gathered that there was not much love lost between KIM and his father. S. replied that KIM was very proud of his father. M. pointed out that KIM's father had joined some extreme right wing party. S. said that that had always puzzled her so. S. repeated that KIM had great admiration for this father, love for his mother, but no affection for either of them, he was a lone wolf in everything he did. S. remarked on what an achievement it was, because she had never met anybody who hadn't great admiration and affection for KIM. M. agreed that this was quite true. S. then exclaimed "Oh, KIM is the master-mind." M. commented that KIM had no conscience at all. S. pointed out that that was quite normal with fanatics.

S. "I believe and-I mean you should know more about this, that if the person-after all KIM was not doing this for money, I don't believe money comes into it at all. I feel that it is dedication and persuasion. And maybe by now, or at that time, less divided, because the second phase -----, you see he really was already in the crisis, these people get into the ~~xxx~~ crisis when they must".

M. "Yes, he couldn't have got out possibly-".

S. (interrupting) "He couldn't have escaped that, so he was caught between conviction and fear. So once you reach that point,

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S. cont. "everything would come second, that is all so clear".

M. then asked if S. thought EILEEN guessed, he thought she must have done. S. didn't think this was necessarily so.

S. said that VICTOR had said that one thing that couldn't be done was to stop KIM writing pro-Arab articles. M. agreed that this wouldn't be possible. S. said her interest was that if KIM was the master mind of pro-Russian power, something would be unravelled one day. S. added that if KIM came to London he might ring her up, she asked M. if it was possible to watch KIM. M. replied "Well, in a sort of way, yes."

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M. "Can I ask you one question, without telling you why I ask it, I won't be able to tell you that."

S. "No, I'll make my deductions."

M. "Did you know, ever hear of anything in connection with Turkey, with Istanbul, in connection with that."

S. "No."

M. "Never."

S. "No, I don't know of his life in Turkey at all, but then you know it all pooled down-the concentrated period of my contact with KIM was from the time I met him until really the war, because then KIM lost faith in me, my enthusiasm for the war was 100% and everything else, and probably the fear of me, the two combined put KIM on his guard of me."

M. "Yes."

S. "I am sure he was mightily surprised that I didn't come out against him, when I should have, as you said."

S. then said she had been thinking that M. might recap what NEIL FURSE had to say. M. said that the first thing he would do what to find out what NEIL FURSE had said, because M. didn't remember it at all. S. said that NEIL was an organised, an old conservative citizen and a nice chap.

M. "Of course he couldn't know very much could he, what he had got presumably he got from EILEEN."

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S. "----- he was very friendly with KIM too, well I mean very friendly, I mean he liked KIM."

M. "But then KIM would never have confided in him".

S. "Oh no, but I mean he might give you a little line on events and things like that, what he remembered, and he'll tell you what happened to the children".

S. went on to repeat how reliable and cultured NEIL was. She told M. not to mention her name when he approached NEIL. M. reassured her that he could really foresee no occasion where it would be necessary to implicate her at all.

S. explained that she thought that KIM wasn't frightened because she had kept silent for so long, and she was sure that in his heart he was grateful to her that she had kept silent.

S. repeated that she would contact this ex-housekeeper of hers, who was a niece of STEFAN ZWEIG, the well known German author, and try to find out more about LITZI.

S. said her housekeeper had an apartment somewhere in Windermere. S. explained that this housekeeper's cousin had had a flat to let, or a room to let and that LITZI had lived there. M. confirmed that this was related to the war years. S. said that it was related to the war years, or post-war, after LITZI had parted with KIM.

S. "You are not interested in the man she lived with? Was he implicated?"

M. "No, not at all as far as we know. I can't remember his name, they lived in Maida Vale."

S. "That's right, she lived in Maida Vale."

S. repeated that she would get in touch with her Housekeeper if M. liked. M. replied that he didn't honestly think it was likely to be very helpful, he was only interested in LITZI if she was the means through which KIM worked.

M. thought that if S. wouldn't mind it might be a good idea if she contacted the housekeeper herself. S. agreed to do this, and would get in touch with M. if she had anything to

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L tell him.

S. then thanked M. for having done it all so charmingly,  
she laughed and said she would offer M. a job any day.

14.03 The conversation then became purely social.

14.15 S. and M. left the ~~H~~at together.

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